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Of the Church · By the Church · For the Church

Luther League Review

The · Official · Organ · of the Luther · League · of America

The Luther League of America

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATION of the UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

707 Muhlenberg Building

Philadelphia - - Pennsylvania

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Our Slogan

A Luther League in every congregation; every young person in the League; the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW in every home; the faithful use of the Topics by every League.

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Machinery of the Local League—Harry Hodges 2 cents
Training Our Juniors—Brenda L. Mehlhouse. 5 cents
The Intermediate League—Rev. A. T. Michler 5 cents
101 Ways to Interest Juniors—Brenda L. Mehlhouse ..... 1 cent
Admission Cards ..... 1 cent
When the Deaconess Came to St. Paul's—Mrs. C. E. Cronk ..... 5 cents
How to Organize a Junior League—Brenda L. Mehlhouse ..... 2 cents

Luther League Topics

"These are the best topics ever issued for use at young people's devotional meetings. The Lessons are arranged in accordance with the general plan of the Church Year. They are Biblical and Doctrinal, Historical and Missionary and contain appropriate Daily Bible Readings, Scripture references and illustrative suggestions. They are largely used and deserve to be adopted by every Lutheran Young People's Society."

Issued Quarterly in January, April, July and October

Each quarterly number ready on the 15th of the month preceding.

Single copies, 1 yr....$ .25
25 copies, 1 quarter.. 1.25
50 copies, 1 quarter.. 2.50
75 copies, 1 quarter.. 3.00
100 copies, 1 quarter.. 4.00
25 copies, 1 yr...$3.
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75 copies, 1 yr... 8.
100 copies, 1 yr...10.

Luther League Reading Courses

Adopted by the Luther League of America

These books ought to be in the library of every Lutheran Sunday School and Young People's Society. They can be secured as noted below:

SENIOR

The Way—Jacobs.....$1.
Workers with God—Greever..... .
India on the March—Clarke..... .
In the Vanguard of a Race—Hammond..... .
I Believe—Hunton..... .
Six Years in Hammock Land (South America) —White ..... 1.

INTERMEDIATE

Popular Life of Martin Luther—Singmaster.....$1.
Making Life Count—Foster..... .
Fireside Stories for Girls in Their 'Teens—Eggleson ..... 1.
Around the Campfire with the Older Boys—Eggleson ..... 1.
The Thoughts of Youth—Duny..... 1.

JUNIOR

Next Door Neighbors—Applegarth.....$1.
India Inklings—Applegarth..... 1.
African Adventurers—MacKenzie..... 1.
Graded Bible Stories, Mutch, Vol. 1 (ages 5-7) 1.
Graded Bible Stories, Mutch, Vol. 2 (ages 7-10) 1.
Graded Bible Stories, Mutch, Vol. 3 (ages 9-11) 1.

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Of the Church - By the Church - For the Church

Luther League Review

A Christmas Suggestion

WHY not carry the spirit of Christmas into every month of the year?

Why not make such a gift this year as will remind your friends of your Christmas thought of them twelve times instead of just once?

The gift of a year's subscription to the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW, which costs only one dollar, will do this.

May we have your orders promptly, so that the first number may reach your friends Christmas week?

THE LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW,
707 Muhlenberg Building,
PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.

100,000 Young People's Societies

WILL
EVERY PERSON
IN YOUR
COMMUNITY
EAT A
"GOLDEN RULE DINNER"
ON
SUNDAY, DEC. 2.
?

Challenged to a Service Campaign

National Committee of Young People's Societies for Golden Rule Sunday

DANIEL A. POLING
Christian Endeavor
JAMES ASA WHITE
Baptist Y. P. U.
CARL F. PRICE
Epworth League,
M. E. Church
F. S. PARKER
Epworth League,
M. E. Church, South
HARRY HODGES
Luther League
STANLEY MANNING
Y. P. Christian
Union

Young People's Societies Chosen

YOU have been chosen to have a very important part in promoting the Golden Rule Sunday, which was planned cooperatively by officials of the International Near East Association, meeting in Geneva in September with representatives from fourteen countries.

Your own leaders urge you to consult your pastors and *answer this great call to service.*

The Challenge: The challenge is an emergency appeal to promote Golden Rule Sunday, which will be a means of feeding thousands and thousands of fatherless and motherless boys in Bible lands.

Its Objective: Secure pledges to eat a "Golden Rule Dinner" on December 2nd, the first Sunday after Thanksgiving Day, on the simple menu used by the orphans in Near East Relief institutions. The saving effected by substituting it for the regular Sunday Dinner will be given to Near East Relief to continue the work for the children.

Why the Young People's Societies: 1. Because Golden Rule Sunday is to help young people in Bible Lands. 2. Because of the Young People's Societies' excellent organization and quick abililty to mobilize for service. 3. Because of their historic record of rendering service in great causes.

Letter from the Chairman

New York City,
October 26, 1923.

Dear Young People:

No appeal in all the needy world today should have greater weight with young people than that of the Near East Relief.

I earnestly hope, and beyond hoping, I fervently pray, that "Golden Rule Sunday" may be an outstanding success; that it may reach down into the life of every Young People's Society on the North American continent and bring forth an offering of service and treasure that will make possible a great and growing ministry to the children of outraged Bible lands.

As chairman of the National Committee of Young People's Societies for "Golden Rule Sunday" Campaign I appeal to all societies of all denominations to cooperate in this contest after consulting with your pastors. Thus we may be brought into closer fellowship with our Christian brethren across the sea and with those of our own land.

(Signed) DANIEL A. POLING,
Chairman, National Committee of Young People's Societies for Golden Rule Sunday.

"Go ye therefore into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature."

MISSIONARY EDUCATION

The Missionary Department this month is giving some supplemental material for the Senior missionary topic which appears in this issue.

The work of preaching the Gospel in all the world is a task of such tremendous proportions, of such difficult accomplishments, that real study of the problem is necessary if one means to have any fundamental understanding of it. It is not sufficient to hear a missionary sermon once a year, go to a missionary pageant occasionally. Missionary education implies more than that. It means that one must study the problems thoroughly, consistently, and conscientiously. It means that one must study and keep on studying. New fields are constantly being opened, new conditions are arising; changes are taking place. News from the mission fields is no more nor less than current events concerning the coming of the Kingdom on the earth today.

If there is a great need today at the bottom of the big problem of missionary work confronting our Church, it is the need for intelligent study of the work, for we cannot expect to have intelligent service rendered when there is ignorance of the task. Missionary education is absolutely necessary. It is the only foundation upon which we may build successfully.

We have all heard the many excuses put forth by those who say they "are not interested in missions." If you analyze these excuses or arguments you will find that ignorance is at the bottom of them. Of course, we cannot have interest in that about which we have no knowledge. Ignorance means indifference. Those who are most enthusiastic about carrying out the Master's orders are those who know most about the needs of the world today. Some one has said that if every man in Christendom a century ago had known the exact conditions as they existed among the "heathen," there would likely not be a heathen nation on the face of the earth today.

A few results from mission study classes are given:

"Two of our members have begun a plan for systematic giving. All others have increased their giving."

"Several who never gave to missions are now regular subscribers."

"Because of our mission study class in a small country church, the contributions for both home and foreign missions, also to church expenses, largely increased."

Many lives have been consecrated to the service of the Master as a result of mission study. Listen to these testimonies:

"Four of the forty members of our class will give their lives to service on the foreign field. So far as I can learn none of these persons had seriously considered foreign missionary service before they began the study of Japan."

"One member of our class has become a student volunteer, and is now in college preparing for his life work."

"The results that came to us from mission study are more consecrated lives, a deeper interest in missions, more intelligent work for missions, and a volunteer band of five members who immediately began their preparation for the foreign field."

Just think what opportunities a Luther League throws away when it fails to provide plenty of missionary education! Who knows but that in your League there are young men and young women who would gladly consecrate themselves to His service if only the need were presented. It is more than an opportunity—it's a responsibility, an obligation, that rests upon all those who lead young people. It is a sin of omission to fail to give the facts concerning the world's need of Christ to our young people.

We suggest several concrete means for promoting general missionary education:

(1) By means of *monthly missionary topics.* These are provided in our League Topics booklet. We urge that every League have at least twelve missionary programs during the year. If you can arrange missionary programs better suited to your use than those arranged in the Topics Booklet, well and good. Aim to have twelve missionary programs, however.

(2) Intensive *mission study classes* are fundamental. They are the best means of providing real study. Every League should at least study systematically one mission study book during the year. Many Leagues conduct study classes twice a year, and see to it that the current home book and the foreign book are both studied by each Leaguer. The group studying the book should be small; usually the best results come from groups numbering six to ten members. Large groups are often quite successful, however. Some Leagues divide themselves into study groups by means of geographical location. Others by various means. The average study group meets from six to ten times, either weekly, monthly, semi-weekly, or daily. Some classes have one leader. Others prefer to rotate leadership. This is a fine way to train leaders. Each member of a class should own his own book. Outside material will add much to interest. Time should be spent in earnest prayer at each meeting. Most study classes end their study of a book with a public program. Many helpful suggestions for the successful conduct of mission study classes may be had.

(3) *Reading circles* are becoming quite popular. Every Leaguer should read at least two mission study books during the year. Several are always included in the regular Luther League Reading Course. Stay-at-homes, invalids, working people who cannot attend study classes, may be reached by means of Missionary Reading Circles. Circles should be organized and books passed by some one appointed for the work.

(4) We all know the attractiveness of *missionary dramatics.* There is no better way to bring knowledge to the indifferent ones than by giving a missionary pageant or play. The person who refuses to attend a study class or a missionary program will go to see a missionary play. Often a young person who refuses to take part in a program will delight in having part in a pageant. Many instances are known of such young persons who first became interested in this way. We should not underestimate the good results derived from presenting a good missionary play or pageant.

(5) *Publicity program* plans should include missionary sermons by pastor, missionary addresses by missionaries, publi missionary meetings. Printers' ink—n tices in parish papers and local paper newspaper people will gladly print fre items of missionary interest. Bulleti boards, with interesting missionary fac are splendid means to get information b fore the congregation. Posters have an i portant place. Distribution of missiona literature.

We might enumerate many other ways providing missionary education. But t fact remains that most of us are famili with the methods of providing the educ tion. The real question is, "*Are we willi to do all that we know how to do?*" means work. But no investment means much as investment of time spent in givi missionary education to young people.

—♣—

KANSAS

The Kansas League is publishing a monthl news letter and will be glad to exchange wi all similar publications.

The "Fourteen Points" are being printed pamphlet form. Write and let us know h many your League can use. Ask for all y really need, but no more. Let us begin September to use this program. Our St president, Mrs. Anna Mae Bennetzen, is author of the following "Ladder of Succe for a Fourteen Point League:

100	per cent.	WE DID.
90	per cent.	WE WILL.
80	per cent.	WE CAN.
70	per cent.	WE THINK WE CAN.
60	per cent.	WE MIGHT.
50	per cent.	WE THINK WE MIGHT.
40	per cent.	WHAT IS IT?
30	per cent.	WE WISH WE COULD.
20	per cent.	WE DON'T KNOW HOW
10	per cent.	WE CAN'T.
0	per cent.	WE WON'T.

Don't forget, Mr. League Treasurer, to that dues are sent to the State treasu monthly, 5 cents per member, based on attendance each month. Remit to Mr. Ro Tonsing, Lawrence, Kans.

Our literature secretary, Herman Stamm Washington, Kans., will soon begin circula the books of the Reading Course. See your league reads these books, either as dividuals or groups, and pass them on prom as Mr. Stamm will direct you.

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO

Four new Leagues have been received i the Chicago District in the last few months

On Wednesday evening, October 17, the nual banquet was held at the City Club. Bertram G. Willoughby, a Chautauqua lectu of note, was the speaker of the evening. M S. T. Peterson and members of Bethel Lea conducted a "model" League meeting, M Peterson's topic for the evening being " Overwhelming Shortage of Bananas!" Walter Berg, as chairman of the banquet c mittee, deserves much credit for the good t out.

Mr. Lawrence Wang, for several years of our most faithful workers, and at pre serving his third term as president of Chicago District, decided to be a bachelor longer, and on September 22 the ceremony performed, making Miss Dorothy Pierrot Wang.

Life Service Department

"Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business."

"A vessel was once wrecked off the Irish coast. The night of the disaster was so clear and the sea so calm that an investigation was made to ascertain the cause of the wreck. When the compass box was brought up, the point of a knife blade was found in it, chipped off by some sailor in cleaning the box. That bit of steel had wrecked the vessel."

It is certainly for us as young people, in making our choices of life work, to see that "no self-seeking, no smallest particle of unguided and low aimed ambition, deflects us and permits us to drift into lives of no consequence, if not shipwrecked ones; we need the needle of God's guidance settled along the clear line of direction of His will for our lives.

No greater and more perplexing question faces us. The unbounded sea of life lies before us. What course shall we pursue? In the words of George Sherwood Eddy we must know (1) our present bearings, (2) the haven to be reached, and (3) our sailing orders.

I. Our Bearings

"Let us take our bearings. What obligations rest upon us that would condition the choice of a vocation? Let us remember that this life which we call ours is really God's life, made anew debtor to Him in every breath that we breathe; that as a Father He has a plan for the life of each one of His children. And, again, we are in God's world—a lost world, whose evangelization He has committed to us, and to whose every creature we are bound by ties as close as those of flesh and blood, and eternally real as the bonds that bind us to those whom we call brother and sister or father and mother. A world of sinning and suffering men, each man my brother, calls on me for work, work, work."

"And again there is One Whom we call Master, who has bought us from bondage and made us free—free, yet bound to Him by ties so close that we owe Him every drop of our heart's blood, the power that comes from every pulse beat, the joyous service of every moment of our lives. If, then, He be indeed our Master, we will have no plan which shall not be well pleasing unto Him."

II. Our Desired Haven

What is our desired haven? What is our real aim or end in life? The vocation is but the means. Behind our choice lies inevitably one of two ends, Self or Christ. Let us clearly and deliberately face this issue. Ask yourself the question, Am I fully surrendered to Christ? Am I ready to accept God's plan for my life wherever it may lead me? Until then what hope can there be of clear guidance or what surety of right decision? The Master's teaching here is explicit. There is no possible compromise. His one condition of discipleship is entire self-surrender. "Whoso forsaketh not all that he hath cannot be my disciple." "He that hateth not father and mother . . . yea and his own life also, cannot be my disciple."

III. Our Sailing Orders

"To Him as Master we turn for direction as to the principle which should govern our choice of a vocation—one by which we shall most glorify God, best serve our fellowmen and find our own highest development. We find it in the text of His great sermon on life, the epitome indeed of all His teaching, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God." Are you willing to adopt this principle as the touchstone of your life in the choice of a profession?"

If this principle has first been adopted by you personally then you are ready to test the various vocations and see which presents the largest opportunity for advancing God's kingdom on earth. Very true, not all are called to the same work but all are called to an equal *responsibility* regardless of work chosen. The work which offers the largest opportunity should be that which offers one of the greatest attractions. With this thought in mind study the various groups of occupations, as well

as your personal characteristics with full reliance upon God and his guiding power and you will be guided into the proper haven of Life Work. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:4-5.

Some Pointers for Life Service Decision Day, December 20, 1923.

(1) Consult with your pastor in the making of the plans for Life Decision Day.

(2) See that *all* the young people of your church are present on Decision Day, whether Leaguers or not.

(3) First of all give information, Biblical information on Life Service. Are you conducting a Stewardship class in the study of one of the books previously suggested in this department of the REVIEW?

(4) Use the Life Service Decision cards. Do not fail to note that one side is for definite decisions; the other side is for those who are not ready to make a definite decision of life work, but are interested and open to guidance and conviction.

(5) Have *every* person present sign one or the other side of the Life Service cards. Even though many may not be ready to decide definitely upon their life work, they can at least express *a preference* and give the asked for facts concerning themselves. These facts will be exceedingly valuable information for follow up work.

(6) Present Life Service as meaning the devotion of *full time* to some special form of Christian Service.

(7) Make your appeals for *definite decisions* to *full time* Christian work. There may be those also who are ready to decide that they will, as soon as possible, give full time to Christian work but may not at this time be ready to say which one of the forms. Get their *definite decision* for Christian service, the choice of work will follow; but have choice of work indicated in every instance possible.

(8) Present *all* the special forms of Life Service such as Ministry, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Inner Missions, Director of Religious Education, Deaconess, Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Pastor's Assistant or Congregational Secretary, etc.

(9) Make a duplicate of *all* signed cards and send original signed cards to the office of the National Life Service Secretary, promptly. Follow up work will be carried on through this office.

(10) "From Self to Service," written by Mrs. C. Hartwell Barber and Elsie Steward Hand, is a most impressive pageant, which some Leagues might desire to give, either separately or in union with other Leagues. This pageant with an appeal following would make a splendid service for Decisi Day. Write to Women's Foreign Missi ary Society of the Presbyterian Church, Witherspoon Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa., copies at 5c each.

(11) See the Topics discussion on December 30th topic, in the November iss of the REVIEW for suggestions as to services for Decision Day.

(12) If you have not done so, get a read the Life Service Department of t REVIEW in the issues of August to Nove ber, inclusive.

CONNECTICUT CONVENTION

The convention theme was "Accomplishi Our Objectives."

The first session on the morning of the 27 was devoted to the hearing of reports, the a pointment of committees and the conducting business.

At the second session the general secreta of the Luther League of America delivered address upon the subject "Accomplishing O Objectives," and Mrs. Otto Plageman of Nau tuck upon the subject, "The Most Interest Work in the Church," stressing the work am the Juniors.

Three simultaneous conferences were c ducted for pastors, officers and committee m the first by the Rev. H. C. Freimuth of Wa bury, and the remaining two by the gen secretary.

At the third session two addresses w delivered as follows: "Lutheran Young Pe and the Educational Program of their Chur by Rev. F. G. Gotwald, D.D., of York, the Executive Secretary of the Board of Ed tion of the United Lutheran Church; " Inner Mission and the Luther League," by Wm. Freas, of New York City, Executive Se tary of the Inner Mission Board of the Un Lutheran Church.

At the fourth session, Rev. F. W. Scha of New Britain, delivered an address upon subject, "Accomplishing the Missionary O tive in the Luther League," and Sister A Heinzmann, of the Mary J. Drexel Mot house of Deaconesses, Philadelphia, upon subject, "Accomplishing the Life Service O tive in the Luther League Through the conate."

At the fifth and last session there were addresses, "The Luther League in the L Congregation," by Rev. F. W. Otten, of R ville, and "The Present Opportunities of Luther League," by Rev. Carl Fleischer, Southington.

It was decided to hold the 1924 Conven over the Labor Day week-end, combining with the Annual Field Day.

The due system was abandoned for the and a free-will offering system inaugurated

The Seven Point Standard of Efficiency to be stressed throughout the year.

The following officers were elected: Presid Rev. Carl Fleischer, Southington; vice-p dent, ——; recording secretary, Miss A Bauck, Waterbury; corresponding secret Miss Verna Bauck, Waterbury; treasu Mr. C. J. Hepp, New Britain.

"What did your husband think of t $90 hat you bought last week?"

"Oh, he just raved over it."—*Bos Transcript.*

Methods

TEN SUGGESTIONS FOR BETTER LUTHER LEAGUE WORK

1. Form a committee to visit Junior societies in nearby churches and collect from the superintendents ideas on organizing and conducting Junior work.

2. Select and train a young man and a young woman to be joint superintendents of an Intermediate society. Make graduate Juniors the nucleus of it.

3. Make a survey of your church district; find out what young people live there, and see that they get repeated invitations to attend the society's meetings.

4. Inaugurate intervisitation of societies by visiting the society in a nearby church (arrange for this) and taking part in the meeting.

5. At each society meeting for a month call the roll of committees. Each committee will be requested to have a member prepared to respond with a brief word relative to the work the committee is planning to do.

6. Arrange with the pastor to give five-minute talks on the work of the various officers and committees, one or two at each meeting.

7. Arrange a reception social to all Juniors or Intermediates graduating into the Senior society.

8. City societies might have boarding house bureaus ready to find rooms for stranger Leaguers that wish homes in the city.

9. Invite occasionally committees from other societies to come and lead your meeting, the program being planned by them and by the chairman of your devotional committee.

10. Plan a series of ten-minute talks on the history, principles and work of your own communion.

WHY A LEAGUE?

(*Continued from October* REVIEW)

Trouble is most of us start out for nowhere in particular, and then after ten, twenty years, we growl because we have gotten nowhere in particular. The world stops aside for the man or the woman who is "going somewhere." The trouble with our organization so often is that they are not going anywhere.

The League has an objective, a three-fold objective, it knows where it is going.

There is a program for the local League. It is a big one.

In your League, do you know where you are going?

Next, we must remember that the Luther League is the young people's organization, and we must keep it as far as possible for the young people.

The generation of the League should be about eight years—that is a person should be doing the active work of the League for a space of about eight years.

Before that he is too young, after that too old.

The League should be turned over to new workers continually.

Our business is to get new ones into the work of the Church.

There is always some one lamenting about the "good old days gone by." Instead of this they should be backing up the new regime.

The older ones who at one time were the leaders should at the right time slip back out of office and then give their support, council, and the benefit of their experience to the new ones.

The League's business is to pick out potential leaders. Get new blood into the work.

The only way to get leaders is to take a lot of "green" young people and give them the work to do, and have them do it.

We are in the business of giving experience to those who haven't it.

Teach secretaries, presidents, treasurers, by giving them this work to do. And in all the work remember that the heart of the whole program of the League, whether devotional, missionary, or social, is the development of Christian character.

Music Teacher (to pupil at piano): "Why don't you stop ? Those marks mean rest!"

"What's the use of restin'? Let's get through with it."—*Judge.*

The Social Meeting

FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS PARTY

INVITATIONS.—Half the success of your party depends upon the way you invite people.

For the Christmas social, get several sheets of red and green paper from the stationer's. From this cut holly leaves, stockings, stars, small Christmas trees. Punch a small hole at the top, and tie a string, red or green, in each. On the Sunday before the social, or at the devotional meeting preceding, "tag" every one with these tags.

DECORATIONS.—If there is one time of the year when decorations mean more than at any other time, it is at Christmas.

Add a festive air to your room with appropriate decorations. Evergreens, holly, mistletoe, cotton to represent snow, a Christmas tree, holly wreaths tied with red ribbon, and red and green streamers of crepe paper.

Bows of pine sprinkled with the artificial snow secured from the five and ten cent store, and streamers of green and white, make a pleasing variety, if you have always used the conventional red and green.

ACTIVITIES.—Don't be satisfied just to have a social in December. There are so many Christmas activities which your League can engage in. Here are some of them:

Christmas Tree—each guest bring a small gift with a verse attached to exchange with some one else.

Make Christmas tree decorations and decorate several small trees to be sent to poor families or institutions.

Christmas caroling.

Take charge of an early morning Christmas service.

Invite a few guests and prepare simple Christmas gifts for the children of the orphans' home.

Read part or all of some good Christmas story such as Dickens' "Christmas Carol" or "The Other Wise Man," by Van Dyke.

REFRESHMENTS.—Some may think this the best part of the party. Here are suggestions:

Apple snow and star cookies.
Ice cream and cake.
Cherry gelatin and cookies.

GAMES.—There are many interesti games to make your Christmas social lively one. Here are a few:

Christmas Snowballs.—Divide the co pany into two sides. Line the players u and give a basket decorated with holly a ribbon to the leader of each group. Pla on the floor before each line a row of fi cotton snowballs. The race is now to be r after the fashion of a potato race. T first person picks up the snowballs, pu them in the basket and returns to deliv the snowballs to the next in line. This pe son now replaces the snowballs on the flo in proper place. And so on until eve player has run the course. The side wh completes first wins. (*Phunology.*)

Candle Race.—Contestants carry light candle length of room and back, circli chair placed in center. If candle goes o runner returns to starting place to light it.

Red Stocking Game.—Have two large stockings. Have all sized packages to p in the stockings. Packages must be pass one at a time down the line and placed the floor beside the last person, then pas back up the line and placed in the stockin Line to finish first wins.

Guessing Game.—What Ice is rep sented?

The Ice of inducement—Entice.
The fussy Ice—Precise.
The Ice most feared by womankind Mice.
The Ice that should satisfy—Suffice.
The Ice of Religious Worship—Sacrifi
The aromatic Ice—Spice.
The Ice of established value—Price.
The Ice of invention—Device.
The Ice among grain—Rice.
The Ice of habit—Practice.
The Ice of habit—Avarice.
The Ice of the faithful Luther League Service.
The Ice of peacemakers—Armistice.

—♣—

THE MISSIONARY MOVEMENT

Minister (to flapper)—Would you care join us in the new missionary movement?

Flapper—I'm crazy to try it. Is it a thing like the fox-trot?—*Everybody's.*

HARRY HODGES, Editor, Philadelphia, Pa. Send all articles, communications and news items to the Drexel Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

Luther League Review

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE LUTHER LEAGUE
ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE
Luther League of America
IN THE INTERESTS OF
The United Lutheran Church and Her Young People

E. F. EILERT, Publisher, New York.
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WHAT SHALL I BUY FOR CHRISTMAS?

Very soon all over the land the question "What shall I buy for Christmas?" will be demanding a solution. Among the many articles which you may be considering, may we suggest the peculiar suitability of the Bible? Holding as it does so important a place in the Christian experience, surely nothing could be more suitable as a gift to a member of the Christian fellowship.

It is true that the Bible is already very extensively used for Christmas gift purposes, but it is remarkable to find, however, how many Sunday School children are still without a Bible of their own. There are multitudes of older folks who are still trying to read Bibles with fine print, they had purchased or had given to them years ago, when their eyes were younger and keener. To such, a large print edition would certainly be a comfort, and a most appreciated gift.

There are many Sunday School teachers who are trying to get along with a Bible that is altogether inadequate to their needs. How much they would enjoy an edition which has teachers' helps that would make their Sunday school work a joy instead of a drudgery.

Just as a reminder, therefore, we suggest that you include the Bible on your Christmas gift list.

WHAT IF I WERE A LEPER?

If you were a leper what would you be thinking about Christmas? Of course you can't imagine *yourself* a leper—*you* could never be one—but that is just what everyone who is a leper thought once, until those terrible blotches began to show on his flesh, and his nearest friends and relatives, even, ran in terror from his very presence.

But, anway, the attempt to imagine yourself in the place of the leper will help you to a new sympathy with these millions all the world over—hundreds of them our own fellow Americans, right here in the United States—who are victims of that lingering but relentless disease, leprosy. In most of the world they are hopeless outcasts. If you were a leper, therefore, you wouldn't be thinking much about Christmas; it wouldn't be worth while. Christmas presents for lepers are not included in the order of things as things are; even those who loved these folks once have lost the Christmas feeling toward them now. In heathen lands lepers are believed to be cursed by the gods, and therefore to have no claim on the sympathy of the more favored.

But wouldn't you, not being a leper, and being a good Christian with a heart to feel the suffering of your fellow men—wouldn't you like to put a new providence into the order of things, which fear and superstition have made so cruel, and give some reason for *some* lepers, anyhow, to be glad to remember Christmas!

The American Mission to Lepers can tell you how—tell you what a little bit of practical remembrance it takes to make Christmas a glorious joy-day to a leper who wasn't expecting it to be anything but another tiresome day of suffering. For years past, in addition to its regular activities, The Mission to Lepers has been sending Christmas gifts all round the world to the inmates of its asylums in far-away lands.

Merchandise gifts for the American Lepers should be sent by Parcel Post to Chaplain H. T. Cousins, Federal Hospital Sixty-Six, Carville, Louisiana.

Money gifts are easiest to transmit and have larger purchasing power when expended locally. Checks or money orders should be sent to Fleming H. Revell, Treasurer, the American Mission to Lepers, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York City. These will be officially receipted.

General Secretary's Letter

DEAR LUTHER LEAGUERS:

There are two features of this month's REVIEW to which your Secretary desires to direct special attention.

The first is the Life Service Topic on December 30. The thought in arranging this Topic was that the meeting on that evening shall assume the form of a Life Service Decision group. Note the plans as outlined in the Life Service Department of this REVIEW, and co-operate to the fullest extent with the Life Service Secretary. This is the most important Topic of the whole year, and the meeting should be a "mountain top" in your League's life.

The second is the 1924 Topic schemes, which you will note at the head of the Educational, Intermediate and Junior Departments.

In the Senior scheme four special series have been chosen. The first is from the life of Jesus and is set forth under the general title, "In His Steps." This has no reference to Sheldon's book, "In His Steps," but is meant to suggest that we must seek to be imitators of Christ, following "in His steps." The specific topics of this series deal with the prayer-life of Jesus, His teachings, what He said about happiness, His love and service, His temptations, how He faced duty, how He treated friends and enemies, how He helped sinners, how He cheered the discouraged, what He said about faith and fear.

The second series is missionary. The first four topics deal with the three phases of mission work in which we as a Church are engaged. The balance of the scheme is based upon the current Young People's Home and Foreign Mission Study books, which will be included in the 1924 Reading Course.

The third series is on denominational work and includes denominational history, aims, teaching, organization, missions and enterprises.

The fourth series is on stewardship and the dates are all in November. This was done in response to a widespread demand, in order that the subject might be treated without a break. It is the month when our Church emphasizes Stewardship in th Every Member Canvass.

Special topics have been provided for sp cial days. The subjects treated in th weeks preceding Easter naturally lead decisions for full-fledged church membe ship. In this group is one topic on person evangelism (March 23). The rest of th topics touch upon practical matters, such sin, memory, courtesy, the danger of triflin with life, God, and the soul, decisions, Chri tianity in the home, neighborliness, ze nature and its lessons, selfishness, promi keeping, organizing for service, the duty sharing blessings, and the vital subject law breaking.

While these topics are meant for dev tional meetings, the committee in choosi them had in view the need of expression every day life of the young people.

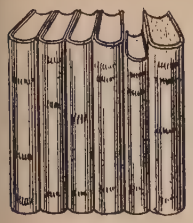
Again we approach the happiest seas of the year, and happiness springs from th heart. To observe Christmas as only form of habit touching only the pock nerve, is to lose sight of the sky line t led the Wise Men to the thought of g and to the bringing of them in person to little Babe in the stable. To make a re happifying Christmas for any one th must *be a Christmas Heart* somewhere ne A very little thing from one man to anot or from one woman to another, that sh the feeling of the giver, means more to t recipient than can be put in words.

"God so loved the world that He gave H only begotten Son. Oh, the great Christm Heart of God!"

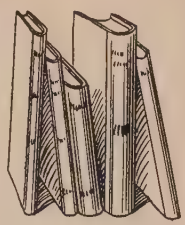
League-ally yours,
HARRY HODGES.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

The annual business meeting of the Distri of Columbia League was held in St. Mar Church, Washington, on October 2. Rout business was transacted, the newly elec officers installed, supper served by the ladies St. Mark's Church, and a social hour enjo at the close of the evening session. The foll ing are the officers: President, Miss A. Barb Wiegand; vice-president, Miss Selma Tre second vice-president, Miss Emma Holz treasurer, Robert G. Blocher; recording se tary, A. J. Thomas; corresponding secret James H. Solt. The Rev. John Weidley, D president of the Maryland Synod, had cha of the installation service.



Educational Department



READING THE NEW TESTAMENT THROUGH DURING THE YEAR

(The Gospels will be read in harmony.)

DECEMBER

Saturday, December 1.—Walk in the Light. I John 1:1-10.

Sunday, December 2.—Christ Our Advocate. I John 2:1-29.

Monday, December 3.—The Singular Love of God. I John 3:1-24.

Tuesday, December 4.—Try the Spirits. I John 4:1-21.

Wednesday, December 5.—The Witness of Our Faith. I John 5:1-21.

Thursday, December 6.—Christian Love and Belief. II John 1-13.

Friday, December 7.—John Commendeth Gaius. III John 1-14.

Saturday, December 8.—Be Constant in the Faith. Jude 1-25.

Sunday, December 9.—The Coming of Christ. Rev. 1:1-20.

Monday, December 10.—Message to the Churches. Rev. 2:1-11.

Tuesday, December 11.—Message to the Churches. Rev. 2:12-29.

Wednesday, December 12.—Message to the Churches. Rev. 3:1-22.

Thursday, December 13.—The Throne of God in Heaven. Rev. 4:1-11.

Friday, December 14.—The Sealed Book. Rev. 5:1-14.

Saturday, December 15.—The Opening of the Seals. Rev. 6:1-17.

Sunday, December 16.—The Mark in their Foreheads. Rev. 7:1-17.

Monday, December 17.—The Opening of the Seventh Seal. Rev. 8:1-13.

Tuesday, December 18.—The First Woe past. Rev. 9:1-21.

Wednesday, December 19.—The Angel with the Book. Rev. 10:1-11.

Thursday, December 20.—The Second Woe is Past. Rev. 11:1-19.

Friday, December 21.—The Great Red Dragon is Cast Out of Heaven. Rev. 12:1-17.

Saturday, December 22.—The Coming of the Beast. Rev. 13:1-18.

Sunday, December 23.—The Fall of Babylon. Rev. 14:1-20.

Monday, December 24.—The Seven Last Plagues. Rev. 15:1-8.

Tuesday, December 25.—Christ Cometh as a Thief. Rev. 16:1-21.

Wednesday, December 26.—The Victory of the Lamb. Rev. 17:1-18.

Thursday, December 27.—The Saints Rejoice. Rev. 18:1-24.

Friday, December 28.—The Marriage of the Lamb. Rev. 19:1-21.

Saturday, December 29.—The Resurrections. Rev. 20:1-15.

Sunday, December 30.—A New Heaven and a New Earth. Rev. 21:1-27.

Monday, December 31.—The City of God. Rev. 22:1-21.

LUTHER LEAGUE TOPICS—1924

January 6.—Epiphany Sunday. Do Better Still. Phil. 3:12-14.

January 13.—First Sunday after Epiphany. In His Steps. 1.—How and When Jesus Prayed. John 17:1-26.

January 20.—Second Sunday after Epiphany. How Can We Help Our Congregation and the Whole Church? II Cor. 1:11; Heb. 10:23-25.

January 27.—Third Sunday after Epiphany. Missionary. The Why and How of Successful Missionary Education. Acts 11:1-18.

February 3.—Fourth Sunday after Epiphany. One Hundred Per Cent for Christ and the Church. Rom. 12:1-13; John 9:4.

February 10.—Fifth Sunday after Epiphany. In His Steps. 2.—How and When Jesus Taught. Matt. 5:1-12; 13:3-9.

February 17.—Septuagesima Sunday. What Is Sin? How Does It Affect Character? I John 3:4; Rom. 3:9-20.

February 24.—Sexagesima Sunday. Missionary. A Day with a Home Missionary. Mark 7:24-30.

March 2.—Quinquagesima Sunday. In His Steps. 3.—What Jesus Said About Happiness. Matt. 5:1-12; John 15:11.

March 9.—First Sunday in Lent. Dangers of Trifling with Life, God and the Soul. Acts 26:28-32; Luke 12:15-21.

March 16.—Second Sunday in Lent. The Bible in All the World: How It is Sent Forth and What It Does. Ps. 43:1-5.

March 23.—Third Sunday in Lent. The Personal Touch in Winning Others to Christ. John 1:40-51; Jas. 5:20.

March 30.—Fourth Sunday in Lent. Missionary. A Day With a Foreign Missionary. Isa. 60:1-6.

April 6.—Fifth Sunday in Lent. In His Steps. 4.—How Jesus Loved and Served. John 11:3-5; Mark 10:42-45.

April 13.—Palm Sunday. My Decisions and What They Have Meant to Me. Luke 15:18; 10:42.

April 20.—Easter Sunday. Easter, a Time of Joy. I Cor. 15:1-8, 51-55.

April 27.—First Sunday after Easter. Missionary. A Day with a Deaconess. Mark 10:42-45.

May 4.—Second Sunday after Easter. In His Steps. 5.—How Jesus Overcame Temptation. Luke 4:1-13; John 14:30.

May 11.—Third Sunday after Easter. Being a Christian in the Home. Eph. 6:1-4; Luke 2:19, 52. Mother's Day.

May 18.—Fourth Sunday after Easter. The Luther League and College Students. Eph. 4:1-16.

May 25.—Fifth Sunday after Easter. Missionary. The Child and America's Future. Deut. 11:18-21.

June 1.—Sunday after Ascension. In His Steps. 6.—How Jesus Faced Duty. Luke 22:39-46.

June 8.—Whitsunday. Have *You* Received the Holy Spirit? Acts 19:1-7.

June 15.—Trinity Sunday. Evidences of the Trinity All About Us. I John 5:5-9.

June 22.—First Sunday after Trinity. Christian Courtesy. I Peter 3:8-13.

June 29.—Second Sunday after Trinity. Missionary. The First Americans. Luke 10:25-37.

July 6.—Third Sunday after Trinity. In His Steps. 7.—How Jesus Treated Friends. John 15:13-15.

July 13.—Fourth Sunday after Trinity. Abolish War. Why? How? Isa. 2:1-4.

July 20.—Fifth Sunday after Trinity. Being a Good Neighbor. Luke 10:30-37.

July 27.—Sixth Sunday after Trinity. Missionary. Spanish Speaking People in America. Acts 17:22-31.

August 3.—Seventh Sunday after Trinity. In His Steps. 8.—How Jesus Treated Enemies. Matt. 5:43-48.

August 10.—Eighth Sunday after Trinity. Beautiful Things I See in Nature: Their Lessons. Matt. 6:26-34. (An outdoor meeting.)

August 17.—Ninth Sunday after Trinity. What I Find in Romans 12.

August 24.—Tenth Sunday after Trinity. How Selfishness Shows Itself: How to Overcome It. Gen. 13:1-18.

August 31.—Eleventh Sunday after Trinity. Missionary. Japan Today. Luke 24:45-53.

September 7.—Twelfth Sunday after Trinity. In His Steps. 9.—How Jesus Helped Sinners. Luke 15:1-7.

September 14.—Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity. How Can We Serve Our Sunday School? John 21:15-17.

September 21.—Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity. "The Beatitudes" of the Psalms. Ps. 1:1; 32:2; 34:8.

September 28.—Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity. Missionary. Christianity Enters Japan. John 3:14-21.

October 5.—Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity. In His Steps. 10.—How Jesus Cheered the Fearful and Discouraged. Matt. 9:22; 10:24-33; John 14:1-3.

October 12.—Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity. Our Church: Its History and Teachings. Acts 2:1-21.

October 19.—Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity. Our Church: Its Organization and Aims. I Cor. 12:1-13.

October 26.—Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity. Missionary. Christian Leaders of Modern Japan. Titus 3:1-8.

November 2.—Twentieth Sunday after Trinity. In His Steps. 11.—What Jesus Said About Faith. Mark 11:20-26.

November 9.—Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity. (Stewardship.) Our Abilities for Christ. Matt. 25:14-30.

November 16.—Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity. (Stewardship.) Our Money for Christ. Mal. 3:10; II Cor. 8:1-7.

November 23.—Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity. (Stewardship.) Our Prayers for Christ's World. Matt. 6:9-13.

November 30.—First Sunday in Advent. Missionary. Japanese Christianity in Action. Luke 16:10-13.

December 7.—Second Sunday in Advent. In His Steps. 12.—What Jesus Said About Forgiveness. Matt. 18:21-35.

December 14.—Third Sunday in Advent. Count Your Blessings and Share Them. Psalm 107:1-9.

December 21.—Fourth Sunday in Advent. The Christmas Story in Poetry and Song. Luke 2:8-16.

December 28.—First Sunday after Christmas. Missionary. The Lutheran Church in Japan. Rom. 1:8-16.

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Epiphany Sunday. January 6, 1929.

DO BETTER STILL

Phil. 3:12-14.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—Luke 17:7-10.
Tuesday—Matt. 5:20-48.
Wednesday—Mark 4:1-20.
Thursday—John 15:1-8.
Friday—I Tim. 4:13-16.
Saturday—Luke 19:11-26.

HINTS FOR LEADERS.

This is a good time to get into the League all the new life possible. New members ... New Year time will give renewed interest.

Stir the negligent and indifferent members. See that they get there and have such an attractive program that they will want to be there at the next meeting.

Compare the work of the organization of the last two years and see how you have advanced. Make the comparison as a part of the program. Let the League decide where and how improvements can be made.

Begin your New Year with rival groups that are responsible for the programs. Sometimes this competing will awaken the life you need in your devotional services. Different methods of scoring can be used if desired.

Hymns such as "Another Year Is Dawning" and "Now Thank We All Our God" are appropriate for the beginning of the year.

Blackboard sketches or paper designs showing the opportunities of the League for the coming year can be effectively used throughout the coming months and see how many goals are reached.

TOPIC.

The New Year gives every one an opportunity to make a fresh start. The year before you is filled with opportunities and privileges. Resolutions are not necessary in setting your goal higher. However, determination is an essential to reach the ideal that is beyond. That which has been left behind is the stone upon which to build. Experience has taught you what to use and what not to use. Many past visions have become real. Some of the failures have been best as failures. New plans have been formulated. Every ounce of strength in your body should be used to materialize them.

Every living person desires to be doing something. That spirit is a part of every normal being. "To be up and doing" is the motto of many groups. Such a phrase is selected because it speaks of their unfolding energy. The League should always be at work. Good programs, kind, thoughtful deeds, and Christian fellowship ought to be some of the work of the young people of every congregation.

Business men and women are always doing their parts in the great world of affairs. The hustling and bustling of the crowd are the efforts of those in the world doing their bit to keep alive and earn enough to feed and clothe themselves.

The slogan for any live organization, as a Luther League should be, "To do better still." Improvement over the past year should spur you on to greater things in the name of Christ. It is not the nature of a red-blooded man to remain idle. He will not be without some activity, either good or bad. He will either be moving forward or backward, for human nature cannot stop and live. An engine may be taken on a side track and left there in dead stillness. But even such an inanimate thing will deteriorate in that neglect. If you are not planning for a bigger and better future then you are shrinking and rusting in your tracks.

Advancement in some phase or other is always possible in the individual as well as the society. Most improvements are local, therefore it would be impossible to enumerate what is best for you. Perfection is always in the future. The vision of the Christ grows grander as you draw nearer to Him. Ambition increases as you become closer to the ideal.

The sounding of the first New Year bell is the signal that others are in the race this year. Are you on the line in readiness for the signal? The year is on. Perhaps you are several laps behind. Will you show your strength by living up to the motto "of doing better still" for the coming weeks, or will it be said of you and your League that you have grown indifferent to the progress about you?

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First Sunday after Epiphany.

January 13, 1924.

IN HIS STEPS—1. HOW AND WHERE WOULD JESUS PRAY?

John 17:1-26.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—Luke 3:21-22.
Tuesday—Mark 7:31-37.
Wednesday—Luke 10:21-24.
Thursday—John 11.
Friday—Matt. 26:36-44.
Saturday—Luke 23:33-34, 44-46.

HINTS FOR LEADERS.

Use the petitions of the Lord's Prayer and their meanings in dialogue form as one part of the program for this meeting. These petitions are grouped into three divisions. The first three speak of God and His Kingdom, the fourth asks for physical sustenance, and the last three plead for spiritual strength. All the material needed can be gotten from Luther's Small Catechism.

Have a prayer list for the League this year. The things or persons to be prayed for can be determined by ballot if the members will not voluntarily speak them out.

Instead of offering free prayers at this gathering have several members to look up some of the most famous prayers in religious history and read them.

Turn to the topical index of your hymnal and you will be able to find a number of hymns that will carry the thought of this topic.

TOPIC.

One of the greatest forces in the life of Jesus was His spirit and example in prayer. His constant communion with His heavenly

Father was a repeated reminder to His disciples of that necessary phase of a religious life. Several of Christ's prayers have been preserved for us. Their language and thought are unparalleled. The lips of a worshiper love to repeat them. High and low are permitted to share in their blessings.

Christianity will not develop without prayer. The heart that is not in constant communion with his heavenly Father is empty. There is no strength among the followers of Christ that does not come through this appointed means. The relation of God with His earthly children is determined by their prayer life.

How.—It is astonishing to note how often it is recorded in the gospels that Christ prayed. The earnestness of the Saviour during these periods of devotion is very noticeable. His faith was supreme. The association with the Father was real. The scene in Gethsemane shows us how He poured out His strength during those hours of communion with God. The world and its sin was the burden of His petitions. The care of the lost and destitute was the cry from the heart of the Saviour of Man.

Jesus was God. He tells us so. Nevertheless He took a humble attitude when in stated or planned communion with the kingdom above. Pictures show that He knelt when His soul was opened unto His Father in heaven. But this could not have always been the case. He was constantly on the move. The sorrows of life poured upon Him at all hours of the day. He was mindful of them. His desires were always before the throne of God for consideration.

When.—No one knows how often the Saviour requested power from on high to assist the needy and forlorn. It is best to think of Christ's life to have been the ideal prayer life. His every thought was in accord with the divine will.

There were certain times in His life that were special periods of intensive prayer. All great events of His life were preceded by a season of communion with God the Father. He frequented the mountain sides and the quiet nooks for these special devotions. Christ often called His disciples aside for no other purpose than for a time of prayer.

Jesus prayed publicly on several occasions but not as the Pharisees. His open devotions were to show the world His relation to the Father whom the world called God. The Pharisees prayed on the street corners in order that they might receive the praise of men.

If the prayer life of Christ is the pattern you use then you will be following closely in His steps.

Second Sunday after Epiphany.
January 20, 1924.

HOW CAN THE LUTHER LEAGUE HELP OUR CONGRGEGATION AND THE WHOLE CHURCH?

II Cor. 1:11; Hebrews 10:23-25.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—I Cor. 16:1-3.
Tuesday—Gal. 6:1-10.
Wednesday—I Tim. 2:1-8.
Thursday—Acts 1:1-8.
Friday—Ephesians 4:1-16.
Saturday—Rev. 3:1-6.

HINTS FOR LEADERS.

Discuss such subjects as "Assisting the Pastor," "Teaching in the Sunday School" and "Leading the Boys and Girls." Read the League constitution and emphasize the part that asks for Loyalty to Church.

Sometimes divide your program into devotional and educational divisions. Let the devotional part consist of the Scripture, prayer and a short development of the topic for the day. Have the educational part of the program to be in contest form. The following are some Biblical contests:

1. Blackboard Race.—Place the letters C-H-R-I-S-T and S-A-V-I-O-U-R in parallel columns on the blackboard. Call two members of the League up to the front and have them to place words descriptive of the names spelled, beginning each word with a letter in the column. The one completing the list first is the winner. You may have the entire body to approve the list.

2. Spelling "Bee" of Bible Names.—Line up the group on two sides. This may be done by leaders choosing sides. There will be no teacher in this contest, but opponents ask each other how to spell the names. The side which did not choose first in making the division will begin the contest. Follow the game as the usual spelling "Bee."

TOPIC.

A congregation without a group of young people is greatly handicapped. A church with a number of young people who are indifferent to the welfare of that organization is a failure. Every congregation needs the life and vitality of youth. The future of the denomination is dependent upon the young life it nurtures. The success of the League to a great extent holds the future solution of many Church problems. The relationship of the young people to the mother organization will determine the glory or the shame of the Church as the years pass.

Co-operation of religious organizations is the call. Blending of activities and services of all the societies within the Church body is the need today. There are many ways this can be accomplished by the League. However, there are two outstanding demands of the young people now

These are attendance at church services and taking part in the services.

Attendance.—No organization has a right to supersede the regular services of the church. In every congregation you will find those who feel that if they have attended either the Sunday School or the Luther League they are excused from the regular period of worship. Members of the League will attend their own meeting which is in session just before the evening service and will not remain for the worship in the church. Some organizations within the congregation often feel that they are much more important than the regular appointed means.

The greatest service that can be rendered by the League to the local congregation is to see that every member of the organization is present at the regular church service. This will not only encourage the pastor and the older members of the congregation but it will develop a habit that is essential to a true, sincere follower of Christ.

Taking Part.—Look over your congregation and you will see a lack of attention, mostly among the younger ones present. The hymns are sung, but they fail to take part. While the prayer is offered their eyes are wandering about the church building. Few of them could tell you anything of the sermon preached. They have not been taught reverence, which carries with it the taking part in the worship. The reasons for this indifference is often given as not being able to sing, or the sermon is not interesting. The importance of the hymn is not the music but the words. Every sermon has some message for the individual if he comes in the spirit to receive it. League members, stand by your church, church services, and your pastor.

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Third Sunday after Epiphany,
January 27, 1924.

THE WHY AND HOW OF SUCCESSFUL MISSIONARY EDUCATION

Acts 11:1-18.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—Matt. 9:35-38. Thursday—II Cor. 10:13-18.
Tuesday—Acts 7:54-60. Friday—II Cor. 11:23-33.
Wednesday—Acts 8:14-25. Saturday—Phil. 4:10-19.

TOPIC.

A.—Why Missionary Education?

(1) In the days of our grandfathers, this question was often asked, but today it is *passe.* Then, one sometimes met church members who thought themselves entirely loyal to Jesus Christ, but who were adverse to missions. Now, every Christian who follows the Master Missionary must realize that the preaching of the Gospel in all the world is the chief business of His Church. It has taken nineteen centuries for us to realize the full force of His command: "Go—ye—." It has taken a long time for His followers to see the inconsistency of a religion that does not give itself and is not missionary. The rapid growth of that spirit which reaches out to the sin-crushed, unfortunate and the downtrodden, is amazing. The magnitude which our missionary work has assumed, and the success it has met, is one of the triumphs of the century. Churches have been planted. Schools, colleges and hospitals have been established. The Gospel is preached around the world. Communities, cities, nations are being transformed. Yet only a beginning has been made. The Church is just now beginning to take her problem seriously. The plans of tomorrow must be enlarged. Who will carry on this program? To whom will the Church look if not to her young people? And will we young people be prepared to do what is expected of us? The first step in our training must be missionary education. We must fix firmly in our minds the fact that the chief business of the Church is preaching the Gospel in all the world, and that the Luther Leaguers today must be in training in the School of Missionary Education, so that they may serve the Church in her big task.

B.—What Are Some Results of Missionary Education?

(1) The Bible is our chief mission study book. Our missionary commands and commissions were issued by our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ. Every program of mission study should begin and end in God's Word. We can readily understand how our spiritual lives will be deepened by a consistent study, beginning with the Bible, as our book of authority on His Will concerning our lost brothers, and continuing through the ages of missionary endeavor, down to our Church's efforts in this supreme work today.

Several persons who have consistently studied missions, testify as follows:

"The study of missions has enriched my life, both mentally and spiritually as has no other study. It brings to me a vision of God's World and of His Church in that world, and of His holy purpose for that world, which makes my life infinitely richer, and without which I would be but a narrow-minded, uninformed Christian."

"Mission Study has stimulated me more to a higher spiritual life than anything else. I can not take up a missionary book without shame at my own low standards. It drives me to more Bible Study, more prayer, more giving, and an intense desire to do something for the Kingdom."

(*Continued on page* 31)

Intermediate Department

THE REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

The registration certificate is now available. It is desirable to have each intermediate organization registered in the Intermediate Department of the Luther League of America. However, this can only be done for such intermediate organizations that have enrolled in their district or synodical or state organization. All such are urged to register. In making application state name of organization, name of church of which a part, location as to name of city, town, or rural community, date of organization. Send to Luther League Headquarters, 707 Muhlenberg Building, Philadelphia, Pa. Enclose ten cents for the cost.

Registered Intermediate Organizations.

No. 1. — Girls' Intermediate Luther League, Woodlawn, Pa.

No. 2. — Boys' Intermediate Luther League, Woodlawn, Pa.

THE MERIT SYSTEM

As indicated in the treatment of January topics the long-looked-for Merit or Recognition System for the Intermediate Department has been adopted by the Luther League of America. At present a copy of it can be procured for the asking, from Luther League Headquarters. It is hoped every intermediate organization will make application for a copy. As soon as possible it will be issued in printed form in the Intermediate Manual under thought. In order to understand some of the 1924 topics a copy of this Merit System is necessary. Any suggestions that the Intermediate Work Committee chairman can give regarding this System will be gladly expressed for the request. In order to create a fund of experience for further steps it is urged the System be generally introduced. As always emphasized, if it is not deemed advisable to introduce it in all four of its departments, adopt as much as is deemed feasible or desirable. It is hoped the pins will soon be available.

INTERMEDIATE TOPICS—1924

January 6.—Taking Christ to the Lands of the Magi. (Evangelistic Missions). Matt. 2:1-11.

January 13.—Our Merit System. II Pet. 1:5-9; Luke 2:52.

January 20.—My Personal Appearance. I Pet. 3:3-4 and I Sam. 16:11-12.

January 27.—The Devotional Program. Our Choices. Phil. 3:8-12.

February 3.—Missions in the Cradle of American Lutheranism. Acts 15:36; Acts 20:1-2.

February 10.—The Educational Program. Our Choices. I Tim. 4:15.

February 17.—In Competition with Myself. (Physical.) I Cor. 9:27; Luke 2:52.

February 24.—Our Reading Course. I Tim. 4:13.

March 2.—In the Missionary Work-Shop (Industrial Missions). Acts 18:1-3; I Cor. 9:18.

March 9.—Lenten. The Upper Room. Matt. 26:18-35; John 13:4-17.

March 16.—Lenten. The Base Bargain. Matt. 26:3-5, 14-16.

March 23.—Lenten. The Prayer on Olivet. John 17.

March 30.—Lenten. The Accused Silent. Is. 53:7; Matt. 26:59-63; John 19:8-12.

April 6.—Lenten. "The Heavy Cross." John 19:17; Luke 23:26.

April 13.—Lenten. The Three Crosses. Luke 23:32-45.

April 20.—Easter. The Broken Seal. Matt. 27:62-66; Matt. 28:1-8.

April 27.—The Physical Program. Our Choices. Col. 3:17.

May 4.—Missions in the Central West. Mark 1:37-38.

May 11.—The Chief Service. Its Meaning. I John 1:9-10; Matt. 16:15-16; Ps. 115:1; Ps. 85:8.

May 18.—The Social Program. Our Choices. John 15:11; Gal. 6:9-10.

May 25.—Music in Our Lives. Ps. 150. Col. 3:16.

June 1.—In the Furrows of the Plow. (Agricultural Missions.) Ps. 65; Jas. 2. 13-20.

June 8.—The Spirit Sent Forth. John 15:26-27; Acts 2:1-8; Acts 10:44-48.

June 15.—Memorizing the Bible. Ps. 119. 9-11.

June 22.—Narcotics and Stimulants. Cor. 6:12.

June 29.—Great Days Among the Nations. Esther 9:26-32.

July 6.—Missions in Dixie Land. Luke 10:1-12.

July 13.—Stars. Ps. 8:1-4; Matt. 2:1-10.

July 20.—Storms. Matt. 14:23-33.

July 27.—How to Make the Camp Go. Ps. 133; Gal. 6:1-5.

August 3.—Trees. Ps. 1:1-3; Ps. 92: 12-14.

August 10.—On the Saskatchewan Prairies. John 4:34-38.

August 17.—What to Study. Rom. 14: 19; I Cor. 12:8.

August 24.—Courtesy. I Pet. 3:8.

August 31.—The Farmer. Jas. 5:7; Ps. 37:25; Ecc. 11:6.

September 7.—Missionary School. (Bell's Educational Missions.) Matt. 28:18-20; I Cor. 14:9-11.

September 14.—The Leader of the Devotional Meeting. II Tim. 2:15.

September 21.—Always Ready. (Physical.) Acts 20:9-10; Luke 10:33-34.

September 28.—Our Debt to the Indian. Acts 17:26-27; Rom. 15:1; Josh. 24:13.

October 5.—Among the Rockies and Along the Pacific. John 21:22; John 6:15; Matt. 8:11.

October 12.—A Home Helper or at Home Helpless. Prov. 31:27; II Thess. 2:10-11.

October 19.—A Daughter of the Mother-House. (Diaconate.) Rom. 16:1-2; Mk. 10:28-30.

October 26.—1524. II Tim. 4:1-5.

November 2.—They That Are Sick. (Medical Missions.) Matt. 8:16-17; Heb. 13:8.

November 9.—Consecration to Our Cause. (Armistice Day.) I Pet. 2:13-16.

November 16.—Knowing the Junior and Senior League. Matt. 18:5-6, 10; Luke 10: 61-62.

November 23.—A Visit of Cheer. (Thanksgiving.) Mk. 1:29-31; Phil. 4:6-7.

November 30.—Your Bible Hero. Heb. 11:33-40.

December 7.—Home Missions as a Life Calling. Mk. 5:19-20; Gal. 2:18.

December 14.—My Community Service. Gal. 6:3-5; Ps. 84:4-7.

December 21.—The Babe Born and the Babes Who Died. Luke 2:7-11; Matt. 2: 16:18.

December 28.—Credo. II Tim. 2:12; John 6:68-69; II Tim. 3:14-17.

January 6, 1924.

TAKING CHRIST TO THE LANDS OF THE MAGI

Fred W. Heins.

HINTS FOR LEADERS.

Consult the mission work in our Lutheran fields of Africa, India, Japan. Search out the plans in these for preaching and proclaiming the Gospel.

THE TOPIC.

If any of you have read "Ben Hur" you probably remember how Wallace pictures three men coming together by miraculous guiding at a common place from which they journeyed to Jerusalem to find the new born King. These three men Wallace represents as coming from three far removed countries of three entirely different races. But it is much more likely that they came from Persia, the land of the Magi, the magicians who interpreted dreams.

In the land of Persia at that time Zoroastrianism was the great religion. In their sacred books they were told of a saviour who was to come and they had probably read some of the Jewish Bible, too, and being convinced that a great king was to be born, they made their long journey to the West.

That God planned this, who can doubt? So, at the very birth of Christ men were to see that He was to be the Saviour, not of the Jews only, but of the world. But were those who were not Jews always to come and ask for Christ? Let Christ himself answer, "Go ye into all the world."

But we ask, do the people of heathen nations want to find the true Saviour, ought we and will we go to them; if so, what shall we tell them? Let us speak to them and see. Imagine a Christian, a Buddhist, a Hindu, a Mohammedan, a Confucianist, and an African Negro and a Parsee gathered together (if such a thing could ever be); let us listen to them talking and wonder what we would say if we were in the Christian's place.

Christian. Brothers, I have come to you today to try to find out something about what you believe and to tell you of my faith.

African Negro. Well, stranger, I have learned my religion from Nature, from the real, not from books. When I have been out in the woods and I have seen the lightning from the sky come down to kill my friend standing alongside of me and leave him all charred I knew that he must have done something wrong and that some god was angry. So I have tried to please him with my gifts. When the water didn't come down to make my vegetables grow, I knew that we had done something bad again. When my fruit trees don't give any fruit, when one after another my neighbors get sick and many die, when the water we drink makes some one get a bad pain, when berries make us sick or kill us, I know that evil spirits are in them, and I become afraid of them and try to get one to fight the other and leave me alone.

Christian. And are you satisfied?

Negro. Sometimes I long to get killed or to kill myself, always I want to find peace, but no matter how much food and how many good things I give to the gods I can never make them leave me in peace.

Mohammedan. Ah, but you are wrong. There is only one god, there are no spirits in the trees and clouds and springs. Allah is God, and Mohammed is His prophet. God is all-powerful, what He wills is right and man can not change. We are not to question anything He does for He guides aright and He leads astray, our lives are guided by fate. But we can be saved if we try to win the world for God. I hope some day to die on the battlefield while fighting to make those Mohammedans who will not turn to our faith any other way. I'll be glad to give my life for the faith.

Christian. Did you ever hear of Christ?

Mohammedan. Surely, Christ was a sinless prophet who worked miracles, ascended to heaven and will come again, but our Mohammed was the great prophet who told God's will to men. I do not believe that your Christ was God, though.

Parsee. I'm a Zoroastrian. My ancestors came from Persia, many years ago to India, where I am now living. I can't agree with you that God leads astray as well as guides aright. There is an evil spirit who leads men astray. He it is who is always fighting against the good God, the Ruler of the Universe. Our forefathers used to think that he might conquer the world, but we know Ahura, the good God is more powerful. Ahura wants us to lead good lives, to speak good words, think good thoughts. If at the end of the world we have done more good than bad, we will go to heaven.

Confucianist. But surely all you people think too little of what you are. You can't really do anything very bad that would make you afraid of being punished, because man is like God. True, every man should try to be his very best, he should not do to others what he would not want done to himself, he should pay back injury with justice, he should follow good examples. But a man would lose his self-respect if he were to be sorry for something he did wrong.

Buddhist. I believe the only way for man to become good is to cleanse his own heart from all sin, to get all desire out of his life, to love nothing and hate nothing. There is suffering in the world. Who can deny it? Therefore, we must withdraw from the world, release ourselves from misery in order to get to the peace of being without feeling, for God is not a person, He does not think and know.

Parsee. Yes, you men (Confucianist and Buddhist), talk of the fine life a good man lives, but do you people have the power to live it, are your people living pure, loving lives of service?

Buddhist. No, I must say we are rather hopeless, with the result that we do not live as we should.

Confucianist. I, too, must say that my people are not what Confucius wanted them to be.

Christian. Ah, see the difference between your countries and Christian lands. Do you people do as good as we do, Mr. Parsee?

Parsee. I should think so. We have always told the truth. We never cheat in a contract, we make sure that justice is always done. I think that you can't boast thus of the business of your country.

Christian. No, we can not. I'm sorry to say that Christians do not all live as they should. But are all your people eager to learn the truth?

Hindu. How can you ask when you think of Ramakrishna who actually lost consciousness in trying to get a perfect love for God, when you think of men lying on beds of spikes, of some holding their arms in front of them until paralyzed in order to draw more closely to God? The one aim in the life of my people is to try to find the truth and God.

Christian. Are the rest of you satisfied with your faith?

Buddhist. Sometimes I have thought that there must be something to live for, and I have longed to have someone to give me power to do the right as I should.

Confucianist. When I have looked around me sometimes and seen so much wrong I have wondered whether we are right in thinking that man is not a sinner and needs no help from a true God. I have thought for hours about this, as I'm sure Mr. Buddhist has.

Parsee. Even with my fine religion and good life, sometimes I've longed to be able to speak with God. When I've been in trouble and sorrow, I've thought, "Oh, if only God were like a father to me, so that I could tell Him everything, and get His comfort!"

Christian. Brothers, I've come to tell you of the One Who will answer all your longings. Men do sin, but God when He knew we had no power to be saved through our own acts, sent His own Son to be our Saviour. God loves us, God is our Friend. Jesus, His Son, is not like your great leaders, dead and gone, He lives in the heart of every one who trusts Him.

All Others. We must think over this, and want to hear more of Jesus, but why have not Christians told us before?

Christian. That I must let them answer.

As we see the Hindus bathing in the sacred rivers to wash away their sins, the Japanese bringing their offerings to the Goddess of Mercy, the Africans laying their offerings of food out in the woods for the gods to come to eat, the Chinese paying their tribute to a great wooden or stone god, surely we as Christians should feel ashamed of ourselves, that, knowing better, we allow them to go on living as they do.

If we truly love our Christ, if He means anything to us, let us show our love by bringing Him to those who are followers of the Magi who came to Him with gold, frankincense and myrrh. Until the time we shall be able to go, let us make our lives so truly like Christ wants them to be that when we go we may not have to be ashamed because we preach a gospel we have not lived.

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January 13, 1924.

OUR MERIT SYSTEM

Rev. Charles M. Teufel.

January Memory Context—II Peter 2:1-9.

Note to the Superintendent:—This topic is the first of five that center about the new Merit System adopted by the Luther League of America for the Intermediate Department. It is positively necessary that this System be understood before we can hope to use it with any degree of helpfulness. Accordingly these topics are ones which the superintendent should be very familiar with. To aid in this and in the understanding of the topic a copy of the Intermediate Merit or Recognition System should be secured. This can be secured from the Luther League Headquarters, 707 Muhlenberg Building, Philadelphia, Pa. The System exists only in type-written form at present but provision later will be made to print it in the Intermediate Manual that has been decided upon.

Now for the meeting on the topic, "The Merit System."

Open with a hymn that exalts Jesus Christ.

Follow with a prayer for blessing upon the understanding of the topic and the Merit System.

Call for Scripture Reading, II Pet. 1:5-9. See that it is read distinctly.

Interpret this Scripture Reading something as follows:

REARING A LIFE

1.—The Unfolding Part as seen in 2 Pet. 1:4—The imparted Divine Nature.

2.—The Degree of the attention—ALL DILIGENCE.

3.—The Qualities or Material Going into and coming out of the Life in rearing—

Faith.
Virtue.
Knowledge.
Temperance (Self-control).
Patience.
Godliness.
Brotherly Kindness.
Charity (Love).

(Have someone objectify this by a drawing using the foregoing qualities in constructing a building.)

Emphasized Thought—Let us build not merely for the future but to develop these qualities NOW.

Call for Scripture Lesson—Luke 2:52.

SPHERES OF ACTIVITIES

Interpret this passage clearly showing that it describes the growth of Jesus Christ in rearing His life. Set it down thus:

Wisdom—Mind.
Stature—Body.
In Favor with God—Spirit.
In Favor with man—Social.

Have drawn a Large Square and illustrate it from the new Intermediate Registration Certificate. (Have you registered your League?)

The Intermediate Merit System. (Have displayed copy of System.)

I.—The Fourfold Aim—The Devotional, the Intellectual, the Physical, the Social.

It has been seen from Jesus Christ how He developed in all four of these directions as mentioned in the aim just read. We also read of great qualities that our lives are to show. We wish through our Merit System to enable these qualities to influence all parts of our lives, and every part of our lives to be a place where these qualities can be shown or lived out.

We do not want any ONE-SIDED intermediates. Let each one look at his or her life. In which direction are your inclinations or desires strongest? In which of these directions would your superintendent say you are weakest? Are you socially backward? Are you physically less than you ought to be? Is your mental life what God wishes it? Is your devotional life or side in keeping with the rest of you? Items for doing in order to direct development or correct weakness have been gathered together in this Merit System.

The Merit System places the Intermediate into *Ranks*, based upon age or periods of time in the League. It covers four years as an Intermediate. Achievement, however, may be more rapid. It enlists the newly-elected Intermediate in the Black Rank, who then is to rise from the ranks, Red, White, Blue, Gold (see further details in System). Each DEPARTMENT has items for each rank. One hundred per cent assures promotion, of which 40 per cent (four points an item), from Devotional,

twenty per cent each from the other three.

PINS are used to show the progress from rank to rank and stand for mastery of items, self, and faithfulness in rearing a life.

INSTITUTING the Merit System should follow the use of this topic. This can be done by planning one period a week for four weeks, using one period for learning a *Department*, calling attention to the items common to all ranks which are required, and then permitting the additional selections from the other items peculiar to the ranks. A SUBSEQUENT Period, preferably four weeks later, should be appointed for recording progress in the individual books in which the departmental items have been pasted and indexed. It is to be noted that some items are to be done between these RECORD periods and some will need to be done in the presence of the entire League. The SUPERINTENDENT should have a personal book for maintaining a check on the progress.

Other hymns that reveal Jesus Christ in His fullness ought to be used and some time after topic is presented, a prayer season for God's blessing upon the use of the System ought to be asked, and for the Intermediates an earnest desire to achieve to the utmost even as Jesus did.

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January 20, 1924.

MY PERSONAL APPEARANCE

I Peter 3:3-4; I Sam. 16:11-12.

"Looks"—"appearances"—are what we *see* of the person. "Personality" is what we *feel* of the person.

You enter a room. You see a man who looks imposing and even distinguished. You say, that is the guest of honor of the evening. But presently someone takes you and introduces you to him and after meeting the person and talking to him you feel quite differently. He looks bigger than he really is. That unassuming person off at the side proved to be the distinguished person. He did not look it, but when you met him you felt it by what he said. You saw it in his eyes and in his facial expressions.

Looks—appearances—are what we *see* of the person. Personality—is what we *feel* of the person.

The important thing, therefore, is to *be* something.

People soon look behind your "looks" and discover what you are. Or better, if they really study your looks, or appearance, they will be able to read there what you really are. For it's a fallacy that "looks are deceiving." Looks always tell the truth, but we must look deep enough.

A—(1) How would you read a person by his appearance? If a boy is clean in his heart and mind, his face will look clean. He will look at you with a clear, open eye. If he is given to unclean thinking, he will soon be given to unclean doing—and you will read it in the expression of his mouth, the glance of his eye. Your face *reveals* you; your face *betrays* you.

(2) Then you can read a person by his walk. They tell us we can discover our character traits in our shoes. Look at your shoes tonight. How do you wear them out? Do you run them down at the heel? Do you kick off, or wear off the very tips? Or do you wear the heel in the middle and your sole where your toes grip the ground?

A slouchy, shuffling walk betrays a slouchy and sullen character—shiftlessness and lack of responsibility. Kicking the tips of your shoes and failure to lift your foot reveals laziness. The boy who walks with "pep"—is the boy whose heart and mind are well and full of "pep."

(3) Your collar, your shirt, your tie, your coat, your trousers are all marks of you. If you care at all about things, you will care about your clothes. That does not mean that you must be a dandy. You may not have new clothes, but they will be neat. You will not throw them in a heap upon retiring, and pick them up wrinkled in the A. M. If you do, you reveal to folks a careless disposition.

B—What do we mean by "Good Personal Appearance"?

We do not mean "good looking" or "handsome." Some people are "good looking" but unattractive. Why? It is only skin deep! I have known freckled-faced, pug-nosed boys, who were really attractive and had a fine personal appearance! It is not the shape of the nose, ears, or mouth, so much as it is the light on the expression of that mouth and those eyes—in a word, of that face.

Have three leaguers make a report on these three men:

(1) St. Paul was not a "Beau Brummel," nor handsome—but——

(2) Benjamin Harris Brewster—disfigured face, but great character—became attorney general of the United States.

(3) Charles Proteus Steinmetz—came to America a hunchback immigrant—but character told (electrical wizard).

In conclusion: The leader may speak upon "having a show of godliness but denying the power thereof. Difference between—"show"—appearance and "power."

Difference between—"seeing and being," and "pretending and doing."

Special word to Girls' Leagues.

This program may be followed with a

few changes for your use. The same things hold good concerning a girl's carriage; her clothing; her facial expression, etc., as of a boy.

However, another side of personal appearance may be discussed. The leader will talk of the styles of the day, mentioning especially those things which are decidedly immodest. The following questions may be given to different girls:

(1) Can a girl adopt fashions which are immodest (thus making her personal appearance questionable) without affecting her character?

(2) When "everybody" uses rouge and lip stick constantly does it make it legitimate for me?

(3) Is it possible to pick out the refined and Christian girls at a party or public affair? Or is it true they all "look alike."

In conclusion, discuss the personal appearance of women the girls admire especially. A very interesting article appeared in a recent number of the "Pictorial Review" describing the clothes of various women at the World's Convention at Rome. Have someone look this up and report on it.

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January 27, 1924.

THE DEVOTIONAL PROGRAM—OUR CHOICES

Rev. Charles M. Teufel.

INTERMEDIATE TOPIC—January 27, 1924.

"Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated Lord to Thee"—Sing.

Announce the topic. Unveil a blackboard or cardboard drawing with words prominently displayed, "KNOW GOD."

A series of several collects from the Epiphany season selected and prayed by different intermediates.

Have Scripture Lesson, Phil. 3:8-12.

Intergretation of Scripture Lesson.

This Scripture lesson calls our attention to Paul's devotional program for his life. He made certain wonderful choices. Let them be set forth plainly.

Win Christ.

Found in Him.

Know Him.

Know the Power of His Resurrection.

Know the Fellowship of His suffering.

After this is done read first point again and call for Heb. 3:14. Then second point and John 17:21. Third point and John 14:9-10. Then fourth point and Rom. 8:11. Then fifth point and 2 Tim. 2:12.

Get the program of Paul understood. The value of programs is thus seen as the program consists of valuable and precious items.

The Devotional Program of the Merit System.

(Be sure to have present a copy of the Merit System.)

Paul's wonderful program appeals to us. We want nothing less than that. Yet in letting such a program express itself things are done and also things are done in order to master for ourselves the items of this wonderful program of Scripture. Our Devotional Program concerns itself with the details.

Let us examine it.

The Common Items

(Have them read or stated.)

There are six items common to all rangs in this Department or program. These lead us into the acts of daily devotion, to the worship of the Church, into the League devotional meeting as the hub of all our work, qualifying the Leaguer as a steward.

The Red Rank

(It is suggested that a Red Rank pin be displayed by one who holds one.)

In this Rank in this department there are seven additional items from which four are to be selected. These items carry us into the mission field, into the Sunday School world, into the Bible, in presence of Church leaders, in the practice publicly of prayer. A special feature is the fact of ABSORPTION.

The White Rank.

(Display White Rank by holder.)

In this Rank thirteen items are listed from which four are to be selected. In this Rank we are taken into the Bible, the catechism, our own meetings, hymnology, the Church here and at large, missions Sunday School. The advanced thought is *participation* and EXPRESSION.

Blue Rank.

(Display Blue Rank pin by holder.)

In this Rank there are twelve items from which four additional ones are to be selected. These lead us to the Bible, to the Sunday School, to the Church here and elsewhere, to our own meetings, to mission study, hymnology, current Church history. The advanced thought, not overlooking needed repetition of previous thoughts, is *Personal Initiative.*

Gold Rank.

(Display Gold Rank pin by holder.)

In this Rank there are eight additional items, from which four are to be selected. These continue us in some form of touch with the Bible, the Church, missions, past Church history. The peculiar thoughts that are new are those of INSTRUCTION and INTEREST in FURTHER PREPARATION.

Our Choices.

In order to qualify so as to pass from one Rank to another, it is necessary in this Department to master the REQUIRED COMMON items and the four selected.

Junior Department

DEAR JUNIOR SUPERINTENDENTS:

It was the Junior Chairman's privilege to attend the Nebraska State Luther League Convention. She found a group of earnest, active young people, alert—and anxious for the 1925 Convention of the Luther League of America. Of course, she went principally to "talk Junior work," and this she did. A display of charts showing Junior material, an address on the work before the Convention, a Story Hour for the Juniors of Omaha, talks in the Primary Department of two of the churches, and conferences with pastors and leaders were a few of the things which kept her busy the three days she spent in Nebraska.

See the News Items Department for some of our Junior activities.

This issue of the REVIEW begins a new series of Junior Topics. The Theme is "The Juniors at Work." There are—

(1) Ten Missionary Topics, covering the *work* of our United Lutheran Church at home and abroad.

(2) Twelve lessons on Luther and the *work* he did in giving the pure Gospel to the world.

(3) Six Bible Topics on Boys and Girls of the Bible, and how they *worked*, Samuel *at work* in the Temple, etc.

(4) Five Lenten Picture Stories, in which the Passion Story is outlined.

(5) Seven special summer meetings, arranged without much extra preparation—a patriotic program, a picnic meeting, a song meeting, three Story Hours, and a Sunset Service.

(6) Seven Special Day programs—a New Year's Service, a Public Entertainment, A Rally Meeting Junior League Day, Reformation, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

(7) Five general topics. The aim is to teach the Juniors to do things, to put them *at work* doing something in, and for, the Church. Therefore, each week at the close of the Topic some *work* to be done is suggested. The list of Topics is appended. Supplementary material will be provided, a Program Packet will be arranged to sell for forty cents. Watch for announcement in the January REVIEW. Send for this. Orders will be filed, and the packets sent as soon as ready.

In addition to the weekly devotional meetings, further plans for the Junior League are prepared. For special missionary work the Juniors of course will want to study Japan, which is this year's foreign mission theme, and the book, "The Honorable Japanese Fan," is the text-book. For home mission work the manual, "Better Americans" will be the Junior study for the last half of the year, following the theme of the year, "Saving America Through Her Boys and Girls." We suggest two special Junior study classes using these books, in addition to the twelve regular missionary topics in the regular devotional meeting, which covers our own Lutheran mission work.

There will be a Junior Reading Course for 1924, to which your attention is called, and which will appear in the January REVIEW. A Standard of efficiency for all Junior Leagues for the year, a suggested Training Course for Junior Superintendents, and plans for social activities for the Juniors are a few of the good things in store. All these will be announced in the January REVIEW.

Of course you will be busy from now on preparing for Christmas. Look over the November REVIEW again for suggestions for your Christmas program. Be sure to order from this office the pageant, "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"—ten cents.

And may the abiding joy of Christmastide, and the joys which came, and which come anew each year, with the Child of Bethlehem, be with every Junior Superintendent and the Junior Leaguers everywhere.

Yours in His service,
BRENDA L. MEHLHOUSE.

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THE 1924 JUNIOR TOPICS—"THE JUNIORS AT WORK"

January 6.—A New Year's Meeting. Phil. 3:13, 14.

January 13.—(Missionary.) Greetings from Cherry Blossom Land (Japan). I Chron. 16:23, 24.

January 20.—(Luther.) A Miner's Son—Martin Luther. Mark 9:36, 37; Prov. 22:6.

January 27.—(Bible.) Samuel: the Boy Who Helped in the Temple. I Saml. 3:1.

February 3.—(Missionary.) Missionary Doctors and Nurses (Our Church's Medical Work in India). Matt. 4:23, 24.

February 10.—(Luther.) School Days—Luther at Magdeburg and Eisenach. Matt. 6:25, 33.

February 17.—(Bible.) Daniel: the Boy Who Faced Lions. Dan. 6:10.

February 24.—What Does the Luther League Motto Mean and How Can We Follow It? "Of the Church, by the Church, for the Church."

March 2.—(Missionary.) When the School Bells Ring in Africa. Prov. 1:7.

March 9.—(Luther.) A Great Discovery—Luther Finds the Bible. Psalm 119:105.

March 16.—(Luther.) A Day of Decision—Luther Becomes a Monk. Luke 9:62.

March 23.—(Lenten Picture Study.) The Last Supper. Matt. 26:17.

March 30.—(Lenten Picture Study.) In the Garden. Matt. 26:36.

April 6.—(Lenten Picture Study.) The Trial. Matt. 27:1, 2.

April 13.—(Lenten Picture Study.) The Crucifixion. Luke 23:33.

April 20.—(Easter.) An Easter Program—"Go—Tell." Matt. 28:6, 7.

April 27.—Missionary.) When the School Bells Ring in India. Psalm 119:33.

May 4.—(Missionary.) "Inasmuch" Stories (Hospitals and Institutions.) Matt. 25:40.

May 11.—(Luther. Trying to Earn Forgiveness—Luther in the Monastery. Mark 11:24-26.

May 18.—(Bible.) Gideon: the Boy Who Obeyed. Judges 7:9.

May 25.—Work and Play. Ecc. 9:10, Zech. 8:5.

June 1.—(Missionary.) The Isles of the Sea (the Virgin Islands). Psalm 97:1, 6, 7.

June 8.—(Luther.) Climbing Stairs—Luther at Rome. Gal. 3:11.

June 15.—(Bible.) David: the Shepherd Boy Who Was Not Afraid. I Sam. 17:37.

June 22.—Snap-shots of our Lutheran Church. Psalm 48:12, 13.

June 29.—Public Meeting. Entertainment. Psalm 90:17.

July 6.—Patriotic Meeting. Psalm 33:12.

July 13.—Picnic meeting. John 6:1-13.

July 20.—Song Meeting. Psalm 33:2, 3.

July 27.—Story Hour. Matt. 13: 24-30.

August 3.—Story Hour. Matt. 13:31, 32.

August 10.—Story Hour. Matt. 13:33.

August 17.—Sunset Meeting. Luke 24: 29.

August 24.—(Luther.) A Hammer Blow That Was Heard Round the World. John 8:32.

August 31.—(Luther.) Dr. Martin's Bonfire—Burning the Papal Bull. I Peter 1:25.

September 7.—Rally Meeting. Joshua 1:9.

September 14.—(Missionary.) Our Church at Work in Porto Rico. Isa. 42:10.

September 21.—(Luther.) "Here I Stand"—Luther at Worms. Psalm 18:2, 3.

September 28.—(Bible.) Esther: a Girl Who Saved Her People. Esther 4:13-16; 7:1-10.

October 5.—(Missionary.) Our Italian Neighbors. Gal. 5:14.

October 12.—(Bible.) The Boy Jesus in the Temple, and How Juniors May Be About Their Father's Business. Luke 2:49.

October 19.—(Luther.) "Knight George"—Luther at Wartburg. Psalm 119:130.

October 26.—Reformation Meeting. Psalm 46.

November 2.—(Missionary.) Our Jewish Neighbors. Gal. 3:28.

November 9.—(Junior League Day.) Pageant—"Even These Little Ones." Matt. 18:1, 2.

November 16.—What the Luther League Does for Juniors. I Tim. 4:12, 13, 15, 16.

November 23.—Thanksgiving Meeting. Psalm 103:1.

November 30.—(Luther.) A Happy Family—Luther at Home. Prov. 1:8.

December 7.—(Missionary.) Our Slovak Friends. Gal. 6:10.

December 14.—(Luther.) Around the Christmas Tree—Luther's Home. Luke 2:11.

December 21.—(Christmas.) Candlelight Meeting. Matt. 2:1-11.

December 28.—The Best Thing in the Past Year: the Best for the New. Psalm 126:3.

Material Needed

LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW	$1.00 pr. yr.
Program Packet	.40
Picture—"Hope of the World"	.35
Picture—"Head of Christ"	.10
"The Honorable Japanese Fan"	.45
"Better Americans"	.60
"Martin of Mansfeld"	.65

(Have your Senior League provide this material for the Juniors.)

January 6, 1924.

A NEW YEAR'S MEETING

Phil. 3:13, 14.

(Plans for new courses of study explained by the superintendent, and chairmen from among the Juniors, previously appointed by the superintendent, one to have charge of the Bible Topics, one of the missionary topics, one of the Lenten picture study, several for special meetings, etc., each to tell of plans for the meetings.)

PROGRAM.

Hymn.—Junior Rally Hymn (see leaflet "Suggestions for Rally Day" in packet).

Business.—Roll call, minutes, offering, etc.

Psalm 1.—A psalm for the New Year—read responsively.

Prayer.—(By Junior) for our Junior Leagues everywhere; that the Junior meetings this year may be of great help; for the work of your own Junior League; for all the Juniors.

Unveiling of Picture.—Hoffman's "Head of Christ." (This is one of two pictures symbolic of this year's work. Send ten cents to this office for the same. Have it framed, or fasten it securely somewhere in the room. Cover with an American or Christian flag. Have one of the Juniors tell the whole story of Christ in the Temple, and at its close have another Junior step forward and draw back the flag, revealing picture. Have the two Juniors stand on either side of picture, one holding back flag, while memory verse (Luke 2:29) is taught. This is the Junior motto for year. Teach it at this meeting, and repeat whenever fitting during the year.)

Topic Study.—Plans for the New Year. Superintendent's talk. Bible Boys and Girls. Luther. Missions. Special Days in the Junior League. "The Honorable Japanese Fan." "Better Americans." The "and so forth."

Memory Work.—Luke 2:29, and Phil. 3: 13, 14.

Closing.—Lord's Prayer.

TOPIC.

Superintendent's Talk. — Superintendent should (1) read carefully the list of Topics and the explanation given on the previous page and in the Leaflet in the Program Packet—"The Juniors at Work," (2) tell the Juniors about the different groups of Topics, (3) emphasize the fact that the Juniors are to do the work this year, and are to work for the Church through the Junior League, and (4) outline plans which you have in mind for your local Junior League work.

Bible Boys and Girls.—(To be given by a Junior carrying a Bible.) The first part of all Junior League work is the study of the Bible. We build our work on the Book.

During 1924 we are going to learn of some of the boys and girls of the Bible.

We will learn how they worked, in the Church and for the Lord.

And from these lessons we will learn how we Juniors can work for Him.

We will have stories of little Samuel, who worked in the Temple, of Esther, Gideon, David, and the Greatest Child of all, the boy Jesus.

The Bible is the best Story Book in the world.

And some of its best stories are the stories of these boys and girls about whom we will learn this year.

Luther.—(To be given by a Junior boy dressed in a loose brown chintz gown to represent a monk's robe.)

Of course in Junior League we will want to learn something about the way in which our Church began.

We will want to learn about Martin Luther and his great work.

Twelve of the most interesting lessons of 1924 will be about Martin Luther.

From his example, we can learn what we can do for our Church, and we can learn the things for which the Lutheran Church stands.

Missions.—(To be given by a girl carrying flags of all nations or dressed in a costume representing any mission land.)

Our Junior League work would not be complete unless we had missionary work.

We will have ten lessons on the work of our own United Lutheran Church, and will learn of the work our missionaries are doing; preaching, teaching, healing, in all parts of the heathen world.

We will visit Africa and Japan, India, the Virgin Islands and Porto Rico, and then learn more about the people who come to our own shores from other lands.

As we learn about the work of our Church in other lands, of course we will want to help, and so we will have a special Missionary Box into which our offerings at our missionary meetings will be placed (holds up box—see directions under "What To Do" at close of topic).

Special Days in the Junior League.—(Little girl carrying a large red Christmas bell, or some appropriate Christmas decoration, or an artificial lily, to represent Easter.)

We all like holidays, and some of the best meetings for the Junior League will be the special meetings.

There will be a special Easter meeting.

And a Reformation meeting, when we will hear more about Luther.

Then a Thanksgiving meeting.

And a Christmas meeting.

Besides these meetings, there is a Rally meeting, when perhaps we will meet with other Junior Leaguers, and a very special meeting "Junior League Day" on November 10, when we celebrate Luther's birthday.

"The Honorable Japanese Fan."—(To be given by a girl in a Japanese kimono, carrying a Japanese parasol.) (Makes bow.)

One of the special plans arranged for the Juniors not only of our Church, but all the churches, is the study of Japan.

Even the grown-ups are studying about Japan, and we Juniors want to learn more, too, about our little cousins in the land of Cherry Blossoms. A most interesting book has been written (holds up book) especially

for the Juniors—"The Honorable Japanese Fan."

There are many interesting stories in this book.

And plans for six most interesting meetings, learning all about the boys and girls of Japan.

With pictures and lots of interesting material.

And Japanese games.

And plans for a Japanese Party.

And many other good things.

Of course we will all want to hear about "The Honorable Japanese Fan"!

"Better Americans."—(Boy carrying an American Flag.)

The whole Church is learning about us—the boys and girls—this year.

They are talking about "Saving America Through Her Boys and Girls."

And about "The Child and America's Future."

Which makes us feel very important!

And which tells us that we must do our part, too.

So in six lessons we are going to learn how we can be "Better Americans."

We will learn what we can do for our country and for our Church.

(Have boy prepare four or five large placards or posters decorated with red, white and blue designs from a roll of crepe paper, with pictures of great Americans, etc., and display them.)

The "And So Forth."—Whenever there are so many things that people do not have time to tell all about them, they generally put them all together and call them, "and so forth."

So in the Junior League, we cannot take time to tell about all the meetings which we will have, but I will just mention some of the rest of them, and call them, "and so forth."

There will be five meetings during Lent with pictures to be studied. There are some special summer meetings, a picnic meeting, some Story Hours, a song service. I am sure we are all going to like those meetings.

Then there is a program for an entertainment, when we will show everybody what the Junior League is; there are several meetings when we will learn about the Junior League and what it does for us, and another giving us some facts concerning our Lutheran Church.

I am sure that we will not want to miss a single one of these meetings, and that if we all are willing to work, we will have the best kind of meetings, and the very best times we have ever had in Junior League.

What To Do.

(1) Meet with the children who are to take part in this meeting the week before and explain to them clearly the different groups of topics which they are to represent.

(2) After the meeting appoint them Chairmen of the Committees, for the year, one of the Bible Committee, one of the Luther Committee, one of the Missionary Committee, one for the Special Programs, one for the Japan class, another for the "Better American" Committee, and another for the general topics. Let these Juniors have charge of their respective meetings during the year, helping in the preparation of the meeting, under the Superintendent's guidance, securing a leader, and helping in presentation of the topic, the members of the committee to assist.

(3) Provide a Missionary Box—covering a candy box or other box with the League colors—the sides, black, red, white and blue, and the top gold. Use this at all of the missionary meetings, and devote your missionary offerings to some special purpose.

(4) Plan your work for the year, using suggestions No. 5, 10, 21, 35, 41, 43, 80, 84, 91, in leaflet "101 Ways to Interest the Juniors" in the Program Packet, for conducting your society.

(5) Secure from the Senior League one or two assistants to help you with the work.

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January 13, 1924.

GREETINGS FROM CHERRY BLOSSOM LAND (JAPAN)

(Missionary)

I Chron. 16:23, 24.

(The missionary topics will deal with the work of our United Lutheran Church in the various fields.)

Program.

Lord's Prayer.

Business.—Minutes, Roll Call, Offering, Reports. (Special missionary offering.)

Hymn.—"We've a Story to Tell to the Nations." This will be the missionary hymn for the year. It can be found in the new hymnal, "Hymns and Prayers" (the new hymnal for societies and assemblies recommended in place of the Luther League Hymnal, now out of print. It contains many hymns which can be used in the Junior League, and is especially recommended for use there. Price 50 cents.) (Have a few of the older girls prepare a number of copies, or write the words on the blackboard.)

Sentence Prayers.—By the Juniors. For our missionaries in Japan, for the boys and girls of Japan, for the kindergartens and schools, for more missionaries in Japan, that the Junior Leaguers may help the work in Japan.

Scripture Lesson.—(Read by a Junior.) I Chron. 16:23-34.

Greetings from Japan.—By a little girl in Japanese costume.

Topic Study.—"Greetings from Cherry Blossom Land."

Some facts about the land.

Some work our United Church is doing.

Some of our missionaries.

Closing.—Prayer by Superintendent, that the Juniors may help in the work.

THE TOPIC.

Greetings from Japan.—By a Junior in Japanese kimono and parasol.

I come from the land of Cherry Blossoms.

I am very glad to see the honorable children of America, and tell them of the far away land of Japan.

Some of our ways are very different from yours.

But you will find that boys and girls in Japan are after all very much like the boys and girls of America.

We have many beautiful things in Japan.

But most of the boys and girls have never heard of the loving Saviour, Who loves little children.

I am sure that you will want to help send more missionaries after you have heard some of the things we will learn today.

Some Facts About the Land.—A Bouquet of Facts About the Land of Cherry Blossoms. (Make a spray of cherry blossoms by pasting on a bare bough pink blossoms cut from crepe paper. Around the stems of the bough wrap slips of paper with the following facts, and have Juniors unwrap them and read them one by one.)

The country of Japan is an island kingdom off the coast of Asia. It is made up of four large islands, and thousands of small ones.

Fifty-three millions of people, half as many as live in our country, live in Japan.

The United States is twenty times as large as Japan.

Some of the customs of the land seem very queer to us.

When you go into a house, you take off your shoes and leave them at the door.

When you go for a ride, your horse is a man who draws you along in a queer wagon called a "rickshaw."

Chop-sticks are used instead of knives and forks.

Only one in ten people have heard the Gospel preached.

Most of the people pray to idols of stone or wood that cannot hear them and cannot help them.

Some Work Our Lutheran Church is Doing.—By a Junior boy.

Our Lutheran Church has been at work in Japan since 1892, when the first missionary was sent.

We now have thirty-four missionaries and their wives at work.

There are also nine Jananese pastors and eleven Japanese evangelists or preachers.

Besides preaching, there is Sunday school work, there are kindergartens, the Boy's School, and work among the girls of Japan.

There are several Japanese students here in America now preparing to go back and preach to their own people.

Our work in Japan is conducted by the Board of Foreign Missions, and the Woman's Missionary Society assist by the support of some of the missionaries, and raising of funds for buildings and equipment.

A Girl's School and Theological Seminary (a school where men are trained to be pastors) are two of the greatest needs at the present time. At the last convention of the United Lutheran Church the work of Japan was given in these figures:

Number of mission stations	17
Foreign missionaries and wives..	34
Japanese pastors	9
Japanese evangelists	11
Members 1,165	
Sunday Schools (40).....2,256	
Kindergartens	136
Students in Boys' Schools.....	580

(Junior giving this talk should have these figures tabulated in large letters on a sheet of paper, which he displays and fastens to the blackboard.)

Our Missionaries.—We will not have time to even learn the names of all of the missionaries, but here are a few:

Mrs. C. K. Lippard, who started the kindergarten work. Today there are four kindergartens for the little Japanese children.

These kindergartens not only help the children, but reach the parents. *Rev. and Mrs. E. T. Horn, Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Stirewalt, Rev. and Mrs. C. E. Norman.*

Miss Marion Potts, who is working among the young women, who is an enthusiastic Luther Leaguer.

(Superintendent should consult report of the Board of Foreign Missions and Lutheran Woman's Work, and tell a few facts concerning each missionary.)

Have one of the Juniors draw a map on the blackboard and locate the mission stations at Tokyo, Kumamoto, Fukuoka, and Hakata.

(If you wish additional stories to tell in the meeting, write to the Literature Committee, Women's Missionary Society, 723 Muhlenberg Bldg., and get "The Idol With the Apron," 2c; "Just Like You," 2c; "The Picture Book That Went to Japan," 2c.)

WHAT TO DO.

(1) Twenty-five cents will help a child in the Japanese kindergarten for a month.

announcement made at proper time. little Japanese tot, and send him or her to kindergarten?

It is earnestly hoped that the Junior Leagues will each select a special objective, or bit of work for the year, which they will consider their own special work. Various suggestions as to what a Junior League may do will be given at various times through the coming year. This is one. Make note of it.

(2) Plan now to study more about Japan. Arrange for a study class of six meetings on "The Honorable Japanese Fan." Plans for this will be included in the packet, and announcement made at the proper time. Have the Juniors begin now to collect everything "Japanese" they can get—post cards, decorations for the rooms, etc. Note also that one of the books of the Reading Course is "Leaves From a Japanese Calendar." Plan for its circulation. Note that our whole scheme of work for the Juniors fits together in this way.

—♣—

January 20.

A MINER'S SON—MARTIN LUTHER

Mark 9:36, 37; Prov. 22:6.

(The Topics on Luther—of which there are twelve—are based on Mrs. Seebach's book, "Martin of Mansfeld," price 65 cents.)

PROGRAM.

Hymn.—One verse of "A Mighty Fortress." As the words and music of this hymn are difficult, spend some time in teaching this at this meeting. Three hymns to be learned during the year in connection with the Luther topics will be suggested, the other two being "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word" and "Away in a Manger.")

Bible Drill.—"Bible Sharpshooting." See leaflet in packet, "Bible Drills."

Topic Study.—"A Miner's Son."

Introduction—Superintendent.

The Man With the Book, by a Junior.

The Baby Martin, by a Junior.

The Schoolmaster's Dunce, by a Junior.

QUIZ.

Business.—Roll Call, Minutes, Offering.

Prayer.—By Superintendent, for the Juniors to follow the example of Luther.

Closing.—Lord's Prayer.

THE TOPIC.

As the Topic is taken from the text-book "Martin of Mansfeld," it is unnecessary to have the same written out in full here.

The lesson for this week's topic is taken from the Introduction and Chapter 1.

The leader should introduce the topic with a few general statements concerning Luther, and a few facts concerning the book.

"The Man with the Book" is the Preface which should be given by one of the Juniors who can read well.

"The Baby Martin" and "The School Master's Dunce" should be given by two older Juniors. Assign to them the week previous the Introduction and Chapter 1, having them read it over and come prepared to tell the story at the meeting.

QUIZ.

At the close of the stories have the Juniors answer the following questions.

(At the close of each one of the Luther Topics key-questions will be given. Review these each Luther meeting, conducting like a Spelling Bee—dividing the Juniors on two sides. One of the Juniors can ask the questions, the one remaining standing longest one week, asking the questions the following Luther meeting, etc.):

When was Martin Luther born?

Where was he born?

What was his father's name? His mother's?

When he was six months old where did the family move?

What was his father's occupation?

Where was he sent to school when he was a little older?

WHAT TO DO.

(1) Impress two things on the children's minds from this lesson—that Luther came from a humble, poor home, and he was respectful and obedient to parents and teacher.

(2) Start A Luther Book for the society, on which the Juniors may work after the meetings. Have them collect through all the year all the pictures they can find about Luther. The Superintendent may supply some and have them available. (From the Brown Picture Co., Beverly, Mass., you can secure a picture of Luther for one cent each, a set of Luther post cards which would be excellent for this work can be secured from the United Lutheran Publication House, Muhlenberg Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa., for 30 cents; and the church papers have pictures which can be used.

Get sheets of paper, black, red, white, blue and yellow from the stationers, or if same cannot be secured, get white, and let children put decorated borders on the sheets in the colors named. Have these cut in uniform size. On the first sheet have the children paste a picture of Luther and below print neatly—Martin Luther—Born at Eisleben—November 10, 1483—went to school at Mansfeld and Magdeburg." At the last Luther meeting, bind together and tie with ribbon, and selecting three or four of the best, put a heavy cover on these, and preserve as the Junior League's Luther Book.

January 27, 1924.

SAMUEL: THE BOY WHO HELPED IN THE TEMPLE

I Saml. 3:1.

(The Bible Lessons for 1924 take up stories of boys and girls of the Bible. Stress the thought that as they worked for the Church and the Lord, so may the Junior Leaguers.)

PROGRAM.

Hymn—"Around The Throne of God in Heaven."

Business—Roll Call, Minutes, Offering.

Prayer—For the boys and girls everywhere, that they may be brought into the Church; that they may be busy "about their Father's business."

Scripture Lesson—Read by Junior—I Samuel 3:1-10.

Topic Study—

Bible Story—"Little Samuel in the Temple" told by a Junior.

Readings by five Junior boys:

1. "Given to the Lord."
2. Eli, the Servant of the Lord.
3. The Little Lad Samuel.
4. The Voice.
5. Samuel's Obedience.

Paper—How Can Juniors Help in God's House—By a Junior.

Discussion by Juniors (Superintendent takes charge and leads in talking over Topic).

Bible Drill—"Men and Women of the Bible." See leaflet, "Bible Drills," in packet.

Closing—Lord's Prayer.

THE TOPIC.

"Given to The Lord." Samuel, about whom we are talking today, had a mother who looked to the Lord, and who when Samuel was a small babe, gave him to the Lord.

She took him to the Temple, and gave him to the service of the Lord. Just as soon as he was old enough, she again took him to the Temple and left him there, to live in the Temple, and work for the old priest, Eli, having various duties in and about the Temple.

God has given to us Juniors good, pious mothers, who have big plans for us, and are willing to give their children to the work of the Lord. We should thank the Lord for parents who teach us the way of the Lord, and take us to His Church.

As little children most of us were given to Him in Holy Baptism, just as little Samuel was given by Hanna, his mother, to the Lord.

And then, too, many of our mothers are hoping that we will grow up in His service, just as Hanna hoped for Samuel.

They are hoping that some of us will become ministers.

How many of us will follow the Lord's call, if He calls us, and become ministers?

Eli, The Servant of The Lord. The old priest Eli, was the head of the Temple. It was he that Samuel helped.

Eli was growing old.

So there were many things for the swift-footed, nimble little boy to do. Opening and closing the doors of the Temple night and morning was part of his duties, which he faithfully performed.

Whenever Eli called he was ready and alert to do his bidding.

The Little Lad Samuel. Our Bible story does not tell us a great deal about what the little boy Samuel was like.

It tells us more about what he did.

But his acts tell us plainly what he was.

So with the Juniors.

What we do shows plainer than what we say or pretend to be.

Samuel was willing, quick, willing to take orders.

We learn this from the story.

And these are all qualities which all Juniors can well copy.

The Voice. The Bible does not have many stories telling of Jesus speaking to children, but this is one.

The Lord came and talked to Samuel.

He had a message which He wished delivered to Eli.

When the Lord called, Samuel at first did not realize the call.

He felt it was Eli calling.

And Eli instructed him in what he should do.

So often boys and Juniors do not hear the message God wants to tell them.

He speaks to us in many ways.

And the voice of our teachers, our parents, the pastor, can often direct us through the teaching they give us, so that we are able to catch the message which the Lord has for us.

Samuel's Obedience. Samuel was ready to listen to the voice of God.

God gave him a hard message to deliver to Eli.

He was to tell him of the disobedience of Eli's sons, and their punishment.

Hard as it was, however, Samuel obeyed.

His answer was "Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth."

Sometimes God gives us hard things to do.

Even boys and girls sometimes have hard things to do.

Sometimes it is hard just to do the things which we ought to do.

An then we, like Samuel, when we get these commands from the Lord, even though they are hard, should say, "Speak Lord, for thy servant heareth."

What To Do.

Give each Junior in your League some definite work to do. Much of the details of your work can be given over to the Juniors, if systematized. Give each one something to do; one to arrange the chairs (in a different way) for each meeting, another to distribute the Bibles, another the hymn books, another to put up a poster for each meeting, another (or several) each week to look up some absentees, another to be a reception committee, and welcome new members, another to put a notice of your Junior League meetings on the church bulletin board, etc. You can find enough tasks of this nature which if given definitely to the children, will keep them busy working in the church. If you have a very large Junior League let them work in twos or threes at these tasks.

This starts the work for the year.

Follow out these plans consistently through the year.

Adopt the additional plans which will be given month by month as far as your League is able.

JUNIOR NEWS ITEMS

The Juniors of the New York City and Brooklyn District Leagues, under the direction of the State Junior chairman, Sister Pearle Lyerly, held a Junior Rally on November 10.

The Junior Luther League, of Shillington, Pa., celebrated its anniversary on November 4. The Junior Leagues of the Berks District rallied together on this occasion, and the Senior Leaguers were present in large numbers. This is one of the largest Junior Leagues in the Luther League of America, numbering almost two hundred active Juniors.

Christ (York) Junior League will render the pageant "Even These Little Ones."

At the Connecticut State League Convention, Mrs. Otto Plagemann spoke on "The Most Interesting Work in the Church—the Juniors."

Harrisburg District will hold a Rally on December 11, when Junior work will be presented.

A Junior Conference was conducted by Mrs. M. Haller Frey at the convention of the York District, November 8.

The Junior League of First Church, Greensburg, presented an interesting exercise at the convention of the W. M. S. of the Greensburg Conference.

Junior work was presented at the convention of the Mohawk Valley District, New York.

The Philadelphia District is planning for an Intermediate Supper, a Christmas Party for the Juniors and a Junior Workers' Supper and Conference.

The Junior Leagues of Omaha, Nebraska, will have a Mass Reformation Meeting on November 10, Luther's birthday, with exercises and a program by the children.

York District will hold their annual Junior Convention in January.

Mrs. Chas. Nies, Junior chairman, conducted a Junior Conference at the convention of the Lancaster District Luther League on November 13.

At the convention of the Berks District League, the Junior League of Robesonia gave a demonstration of a Junior meeting.

LUTHER LEAGUE TOPICS.

(*Continued from page* 17)

"I can not express in words how I have been benefitted spiritually."

"It seems to me that no life is so Christlike in its self-sacrifice and service for others as that of the missionary. The study of such lives has deepened my desire for a holy life, and has enlarged my faith."

The consistent study of missions deepens the prayer life. Several members of mission study classes have said:

"I believe that I can pray for missions more intelligently than it was possible for me to do before. I had not been in the habit of praying for missions, but I intend to begin."

"With a knowledge of the need of the country, need for workers and knowing something of what great things have been accomplished through prayer, I shall certainly be able to pray better."

"I know I shall pray more earnestly and more enthusiastically for missions because this course has thoroughly aroused my interest."

(2) Enlarged missionary giving invariably results from mission study. Someone has said that mission study is the key that unlocks purses and bank accounts. In order to encourage our young people to contribute systematically and definitely to the great cause, they must be given definite missionary education in a systematic way. Why is there so much spasmodic missionary giving? Because there is so much spasmodic missionary education! We should realize that giving is an art.

C.—The "How of Missionary Education."

Missionary education in a Luther League should be definitely planned. It should be far reaching and broad in its scope. It should be systematic. The responsibility should be placed upon an energetic missionary committee whose chairman is the missionary secretary. Needless to say, this committee should be composed of the strongest and most capable members of the League. This committee should have as its aim the giving of missionary education to all the young people.

The committee should confer with the pastor, whose advice will be invaluable in outlining the particular plans suitable for the particular congregation. There are many persons throughout the Church who have had successful experience in planning missionary education courses. You know who these people are in your synod. Ask their advice, if you feel the need of it. Each League and each congregation is a law unto itself, and has peculiar needs of its own, so it is not possible for one to outline a definite plan which will suit all Leagues.

League News Items

SEND IN THE NEWS—The other Leagues want to know what YOU are doing. You want them to know of your activities. This department is a clearing house for ideas in entertainment and good works. If yours is not represented it is because we do not hear from you. All news items must be in the Editor's hands by the first of the month.

LUTHER LEAGUE OF PENNSYLVANIA

Amid the beautiful mountains of Northern Pennsylvania the Thirtieth Annual Convention of the Luther League of Pennsylvania convened in the First Church, Ridgway, Pa., September 11, 12 and 13. Rev. Luther A. Krouse, the pastor loci, together with the members of the local league and congregation proved to be excellent hosts to the young people of the United Lutheran Church as they assembled from various sections of the Old Keystone State.

There were a large number of delegates and visitors present when the president of the State League, Francis C. Leupold, called the convention to order. The convention theme, "Finding Our Objectives," emphasized the program of the official young peoples' organization of the United Lutheran Church.

Harry Hodges, Philadelphia, General Secretary of the Luther League of America, presented a paper on "The Definite Educational Objectives of the Luther League." This was followed, during a later session of the convention, by a paper presenting "The Definite Missionary Objective of the Luther League" by the Reverend Oscar F. Blackwelder, Pastor of the Virginia Heights Lutheran Church, Roanoke, Va., and a paper on "The Definite Life Service Objective of the Luther League" by Rev. C. A. Portz, Wheeling, W. Va., who is the Life Service Secretary of the Luther League of America. Each of these papers and the discussions that followed fully developed the work that is planned for the young people of the church. So effective were these papers that they are to be printed in pamphlet form for general distribution.

The speakers who brought the inspirational messages during the evening sessions were Rev. Carl A. Sundberg, D.D., President of Thiel College, Greenville, Pa., who spoke on the subject, "Know Thy Church." At the second evening session, Rev. Chas. P. McLaughlin, D.D., Pastor of the First Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh, Pa., during his address developed the broad subject "Missions." At the third evening session and Grand Rally "The Claims of the Church Upon Its Young People" were brought to the attention of the large audience by Rev. J. S. Simon, D.D., Hagerstown, Md.

Walter Banker, Kingston, Pa., the President of the Luther League of America, gave the opening message of the convention under the heading "The Call" during which he sounded the key note which brought to the attention of those in attendance the great opportunities presented to the young people of the United Lutheran Church in fulfilling their part of the service that the church is endeavoring to render in the kingdom.

A definite subject under "The Call of the Diaconate" was brought by Rev. E. F. Bachman, D.D., Rector of the Mary J. Drexel Home and Mother House, Philadelphia, Pa.

The work among the Juniors was brought before the convention by a very able conference in charge of Miss Brenda L. Mehlhouse, Norristown, who is chairman of the Junior Committee of the Luther League of America. A very excellent pageant and Junior session was in charge of the children of the church entertaining the convention.

Rev. Chas. M. Teufel, Woodlawn, the chairman of the Intermediate Committee of the Luther League of America, conducted a conference on "Intermediate Work" and by the aid of charts brought out many excellent ideas for work among the young people of the "teen" age.

The reports given during the sessions of the convention by the various officers of the State League told of most excellent progress being made during the past year. The statistical report of the Executive Secretary showed gains in all departments with a total membership of over twelve thousand young people actively associated with the Luther League movement throughout the State. The young people, directly through their local organizations, contributed over $12,000.00 for local work and nearly $5,000.00 for the benevolent operations of the United Lutheran Church.

At the close of the first evening session a very delightful informal reception was tendered to the delegates and visitors by the Luther League of the First Church, Ridgway, Pa. A very pleasing feature of the convention was the excellent music rendered by the choir, organist and special instrumental soloists of the local congregation.

Special mention should be made of the arrangements made by the local congregation of the First Church who leased one of the Business Men's Club Homes of the city and provided for all delegates and out-of-town visitors to take their luncheon and dinner in the spacious dining room of the club, thereby bringing all those in attendance into very pleasant intercourse during the meal hour.

The local Y. M. C. A. also extended full privileges, free of any cost, to all of those in attendance and, needless to say, both the swimming pool and bowling alleys were put to good use between the sessions of the convention.

The convention accepted the invitation of the Lancaster District Luther League to hold the Thirty-first Annual Convention at Lancaster during the month of August, 1924.

Considerable business was transacted that will mean much for the future development of the work among the young people of the church.

Special emphasis was laid on increasing the circulation of literature, the holding of group conferences for extension work in various centers of the State, and aggressively pushing the work in the Intermediate and Junior, as well as the Senior Department of the State Organization.

The following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year:

President—John Greiner, Jr., Scranton.

Vice-president—D. A. Kommel, Rochester.

Secretary—Miss Helen P. Lang, Wilkes-Barre.

Assistant Secretary—Miss Hazel M. Harman, Youngwood.
Treasurer—Musser D. White, Harrisburg.
Executive Secretary—M. Haller Frey, York.
The Executive Committee will consist of the officers and Rev. Lewis C. Manges, D.D., Harrisburg; Rev. H. S. Paules, Landsdale; Rev. C. M. Teufel, Woodlawn; Francis C. Leupold, Philadelphia; Charles W. Fuhr, Pittsburgh; Wm. H. Menges, Menges Mills, and George M. Jones, Esq., Reading.

In connection with the Thirtieth Annual Convention of the Luther League of Pennsylvania, held at Ridgway, on September 13, a Junior convention was held, when the following program was rendered, the local Junior president and secretary in charge:

Opening Address—Junior President.
Worship Period—Five Juniors—
Hymn—The Lord My Shepherd Is.
Scripture Lesson.
Unveiling of Picture—Hoffman's "Head of Christ."
Bible Story—The Boy in the Temple.
Prayer—by Junior.
Business—
Address of Welcome.
Report of 1922 State Junior Convention.
Report of Junior session at National Convention, York.
Greetings from State and National Senior officials. Bible Work—
Dramatization—The Unmerciful Servant—Ten boys.
Our Church—
Reading—Martin Luther's Verse.
Exercise—The Church Seasons.
Pantomine—I Think When I Read That Sweet Story of Old.
Missions—
Short Talk on Japan—
Luther League—
Exercise—Making of the Luther League Emblem.
Closing—The Junior League Rally Hymn.

There was a conference on Junior work, and a display of material for the different activities of the Junior League, resulting in an increased interest in the opportunities of training the children in the work of the League.

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NEW YORK

MOHAWK VALLEY DISRICT

The Thirty-second Annual Convention of the Mohawk Valley District was held October 17 and 18 in the Church of the Redeemer, Troy.

The opening service Wednesday evening was a convention banquet, with Rev. Arnold F. Keller, of Utica, as speaker.

Thursday morning was devoted to business, and to an address, "Loyalty to Our State Program," by Rev. Raymond E. Finehout, president of the New York State League.

The afternoon session was featured by three addresses, "Real Missionary Work," by Rev. George Drach, D.D., of the Board of Foreign Missions; "Saving the Children," by a Junior League worker, and "The Past and the Coming State Conventions," by Rev. Frederick Melville, of Fort Plain. Important items such as the Fifteen Point State Efficiency Program, the Japan Seminary Appeal (the State objective), the Sustaining Membership Fund of the Luther League of America, plans for increased subscriptions to the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW and plans for the next State convention, were presented for discussion. The convention closed with a devotional service by the convention chaplain, Rev. C. G. Empie, D.D.

This district will entertain the State convention in May, the convention church to be the Church of the Redeemer, Utica.

BROOKLYN

Incarnation Luther League, of Brooklyn, celebrated its tenth anniversary on October 4 to 7. Thursday evening, a public meeting, with addresses by Mr. George Russell Sunden, president of the District League; Rev. Raymond E. Finehout, president of the State League, and Mr. Harry Hodges, general secretary of the Luther League of America, was held, followed by a social hour. Friday evening, a banquet was held at the Y. M. C. A. at which Mr. C. C. Dittmer, treasurer of the Luther League of America, delivered an address. The celebration closed with special morning and evening services on Sunday, with sermons by the pastor, Rev. Harold S. Miller, past president of the State League. Incarnation League is one of the most active of the leagues in the district, doing special inner mission work, training the younger members through an Intermediate League, conducting regular devotional services, and taking an active part in all district and State conventions.

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ILLINOIS

The Luther League of Illinois is taking on new life. All through the State are signs of increased activity. This State organization has established an "extension fund" which is raised by pledges at the State convention, and paid into the treasury before October 1. This enables them to send Mrs. S. T. Peterson, the State extension chairman, throughout the State, organizing new Leagues and helping those that need help.

A joint meeting of the Elgin, Woodstock and Aurora Leagues was held on Sunday, September 16, at Elgin. This gathering represented three "live" Leagues. Each president reported on local activities, their aims, etc. At the evening meeting, Mr. Emery Kirkman and Mrs. Peterson were the speakers.

On September 30, a rally meeting was held at Lanark, Ill., at which representatives and pastors were present from the Leagues of Mt. Carroll, Chadwick and Milledgeville. It was a splendid, enthusiastic meeting. The afternoon and evening sessions were in charge of Mrs. Peterson and were devoted almost entirely to discussion of young people's work. Three papers on "Serving God" were read at the evening session.

On October 10 Mrs. Peterson visited Mt. Carmel, Ill. A League was oganized and has made application for membership into the State League. Mrs. Peterson also visited the League at Claremont which has just recently been received into the State League, and in this farming community found a fine crowd of active young people. As she was the first lady that had ever addressed these good people the church was well filled.

A new League was also organized at Vandalia, Ill.

On October 14 the Luther League of the First Church in Decatur entertained Luther Leaguers from Springfield, Mt. Pulaski, and Champaign. Dr. W. H. Nicholas, of Springfield, was the speaker at the afternoon meeting. Mrs. Peterson also spoke and entertained with readings at the "supper meeting," held in the church parlors in the evening. The Decatur young people are to be congratulated upon the splendid manner in which they have kept up their meetings and other activities in the absence of their pastor, who has been away for almost a year on account of ill health. But the Luther League "carried on" just the same!

Mr. Emery Kirkman, of Woodstock, State president, has taken unto himself a wife, for on October 25 Miss Ebba Anderson, also of the Woodstock League, became Mrs. Kirkman.

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